

**Supplementary files:**

**Appendix A: Reactive solute transport in a filled single fracture-matrix system under the unilateral flow.**

The governing equations of reactive solute transport in the mobile and immobile domains of filled fracture and rock matrix in Eqs.2.1-2.3 should be transformed in dimensionless formats. The dimensionless variables used in the study of the unilateral flow model are as follows:

$$C_{mD} = \frac{C_m}{C_0}; \quad C_{imD} = \frac{C_{im}}{C_0}; \quad C_{kD} = \frac{C_k}{C_0}; \quad x_D = \frac{x}{b}; \quad z_D = \frac{z}{b} \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D_m}{R_1 D_d}}; \quad t_D = \frac{D_m}{R_1 b^2} t; \quad Pe = \frac{v_m b}{D_m}$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_{im}/\theta_m; \quad \theta_2 = \theta_k/\theta_m; \quad \alpha = \frac{R_1 b^2}{D_m}; \quad \alpha_1 = \theta_2 \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D_d}{R_1 D_m}}; \quad M'_{fmD} = \frac{M'_{fm}}{C_0 b^2 \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D_d}{R_3 D_m}}}; \quad M'_{fimD} =$$

$$\frac{M'_{fim}}{C_0 b^2 \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D_d}{R_3 D_m}}}; \quad M'_{kD} = \frac{M'_{k}}{C_0 b^2 \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D_d}{R_3 D_m}}}.$$

In the unilateral flow model, the non-dimensional governing equations (Eqs. (2.1)-(2.3)) now are transformed to their dimensionless formats of Eqs. (A1)-(A3):

$$\frac{\partial C_{mD}}{\partial t_D} + \frac{\theta_1 R_2}{R_1} \frac{\partial C_{imD}}{\partial t_D} = \frac{\partial^2 C_{mD}}{\partial x_D^2} - Pe \frac{\partial C_{mD}}{\partial x_D} - \lambda_1 \alpha C_{mD} - \lambda_2 \theta_1 \alpha \frac{R_2}{R_1} C_{im} + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial C_{kD}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D = \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D_m}{R_1 D_d}}}, \quad (A.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{imD}}{\partial t_D} = \frac{\omega \alpha}{\theta_{im} R_2} (C_{mD} - C_{imD}) - \lambda_2 \alpha C_{imD}, \quad (A.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{kD}}{\partial t_D} = \frac{\partial^2 C_{kD}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_3 \alpha C_{kD}. \quad (A.3)$$

Applying Laplace transform to Eqs. (A.1)-(A.3) would lead to the following equations:

$$p\overline{C_{mD}} + p\frac{\theta_1 R_2}{R_1}\overline{C_{imD}} = \frac{d^2\overline{C_{mD}}}{dx_D^2} - Pe\frac{d\overline{C_{mD}}}{dx_D} - \lambda_1\alpha\overline{C_{mD}} - \lambda_2\theta_1\alpha\frac{R_2}{R_1}\overline{C_{imD}} + \alpha_1\frac{d\overline{C_{kD}}}{dz_D}\Bigg|_{z_D=\sqrt{\frac{R_3D_m}{R_1D_d}}}, \quad (\text{A.4})$$

$$p\overline{C_{imD}} = \frac{\omega\alpha}{\theta_{im}R_2}(\overline{C_{mD}} - \overline{C_{imD}}) - \lambda_2\alpha\overline{C_{imD}}, \quad (\text{A.5})$$

$$p\overline{C_{kD}} = \frac{d^2\overline{C_{kD}}}{dz_D^2} - \lambda_3\alpha\overline{C_{kD}}, \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where  $p$  is the Laplace transform parameter in respect to the dimensionless time,  $t_D$  and overbar means the term in Laplace domain. From Eq. (A.6), one has

$$\frac{d^2\overline{C_{kD}}}{dz_D^2} = (\lambda_3\alpha + p)\overline{C_{kD}}, \quad (\text{A.7})$$

The general solution of Eq. (A7) is

$$\overline{C_{kD}} = Ae^{wz_D} + Be^{-wz_D}, \quad (\text{A.8})$$

where  $w = \sqrt{\lambda_3\alpha + p}$ .

Recalling boundary condition of rock matrix at infinity (Eq. (2.11)), Eq. (A.8) can be simplified as:

$$\overline{C_{kD}} = Be^{-wz_D}. \quad (\text{A.9})$$

Substituting Eq. (A.9) to Eq. (A.6), one can get the following relation:

$$\overline{C_{mD}} = \overline{C_{kD}}\Bigg|_{z_D=\sqrt{\frac{R_3D_m}{R_1D_d}}}, \quad (\text{A.10})$$

$$B = \overline{C_{mD}}e^{\sqrt{\lambda_3\alpha+p}\sqrt{\frac{R_3D_m}{R_1D_d}}}. \quad (\text{A.11})$$

Now one has the relation between  $\overline{C_{kD}}$  and  $\overline{C_{mD}}$ :

$$\overline{C_{kD}} = \overline{C_{mD}} e^{\sqrt{\lambda_3 \alpha + p} \left( \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D_m}{R_1 D_d}} - z_D \right)}. \quad (\text{A.12})$$

Based on Eq. (A.5), the relation between  $\overline{C_{mD}}$  and  $\overline{C_{imD}}$  is demonstrated:

$$\overline{C_{imD}} = \frac{\omega}{\frac{\theta_{im} R_2 p}{\alpha} + \omega + \lambda_2 \theta_{im} R_2} \overline{C_{mD}}. \quad (\text{A.13})$$

Substituting Eqs. (A.12)-(A.13) into Eq. (A.4), the final solutions will be reached in the Laplace domain.

Converting  $M'_{fm}$ ,  $M'_{im}$  and  $M'_k$  in Eqs. (2.30)-(2.32) into their dimensionless forms defined above, the dimensionless mass per unit width stored in the fracture-rock matrix system of unilateral flow is given as:

$$M'_{fmD} = 2\theta_m \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D_m}{R_1 D_d}} \int_0^\infty C_{mD} dx_D, \quad (\text{A.14})$$

$$M'_{imD} = 2\theta_{im} \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D_m}{R_1 D_d}} \int_0^\infty C_{imD} dx_D, \quad (\text{A.15})$$

$$M'_{kD} = 2\theta_k \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty C_{kD} dx_D dz_D \quad (\text{A.16})$$

**Appendix B: Reactive solute transport in a filled single fracture-matrix system under the radial flow.**

The governing equations (Eqs. (2.20)-(2.21)) are transformed to dimensionless formats. The dimensionless variables used in the study of the radial flow model are defined as follows:

$$C_{mD} = \frac{C_m}{C_0} ; C_{imD} = \frac{C_{im}}{C_0} ; C_{kD} = \frac{C_k}{C_0} ; t_D = \frac{At}{R_1 d^2} ; r_D = \frac{r}{d} ; z_D = \left(\frac{z}{d}\right) \sqrt{\frac{R_3 A}{R_1 D d}} ; \tau_1 = \frac{\theta_2 d}{b} \sqrt{\frac{R_3 D d}{R_1 A}} ; \tau = \frac{d^2 R_1}{A} ; \theta_1 = \theta_{im}/\theta_m ; \theta_2 = \theta_k/\theta_m ; M_{fmD} = \frac{M_{fm}}{C_0 d^3 \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D d}{R_3 A}}} ; M_{fimD} = \frac{M_{fim}}{C_0 d^3 \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D d}{R_3 A}}} ; M_{kD} = \frac{M_k}{C_0 d^3 \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D d}{R_3 A}}} .$$

Converting the system into the dimensionless format, as done for the unilateral flow model, with details provided above, one has:

$$\frac{\partial C_{mD}}{\partial t_D} + \frac{\theta_1 R_2}{R_1} \left( \frac{\partial C_{imD}}{\partial t_D} \right) = \frac{1}{r_D} \left( \frac{\partial^2 C_{mD}}{\partial r_D^2} \right) - \frac{1}{r_D} \left( \frac{\partial C_{mD}}{\partial r_D} \right) - \lambda_1 \tau C_{mD} - \theta_1 \lambda_2 \frac{R_2}{R_1} \tau C_{imD} + \tau_1 \left( \frac{\partial C_{kD}}{\partial z_D} \right) \Big|_{z_D = b/d \sqrt{\frac{R_3 A}{R_1 D d}}} , \quad (B.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{imD}}{\partial t_D} = \frac{\omega \tau}{\theta_{im} R_2} (C_{mD} - C_{imD}) - \lambda_2 \tau C_{imD} , \quad (B.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 C_{kD}}{\partial z_D^2} - \frac{\partial C_{kD}}{\partial t_D} - \tau \lambda_3 C_{kD} = 0 . \quad (B.3)$$

Applying the Laplace transform to Eqs. (B.1)-(B.3) would yield to the following equations in the Laplace domain:

$$p\overline{C_{mD}} + \theta_1\lambda_2\frac{R_2}{R_1}\tau\overline{C_{imD}} + \frac{\theta_1pR_2}{R_1}\overline{C_{imD}} = \frac{1}{r_D}\left(\frac{d^2\overline{C_{mD}}}{dr_D^2}\right) - \frac{1}{r_D}\left(\frac{d\overline{C_{mD}}}{dr_D}\right) - \lambda_1\tau\overline{C_{mD}} + \tau_1\left(\frac{\partial\overline{C_{kD}}}{\partial z_D}\right)\Bigg|_{z_D=b/d\sqrt{\frac{R_3A}{R_1D_d}}} \quad (\text{B.4})$$

$$p\overline{C_{imD}} = \frac{\omega\tau}{\theta_{im}R_2}\left(\overline{C_{mD}} - \overline{C_{imD}}\right) - \lambda_2\tau\overline{C_{imD}}, \quad (\text{B.5})$$

$$\frac{\partial^2\overline{C_{kD}}}{\partial z_D^2} - \overline{C_{kD}}p - \tau\lambda_3\overline{C_{kD}} = 0. \quad (\text{B.6})$$

From Eq. (B.6), we have:

$$\overline{C_{kD}} = a \times \exp\left(-\sqrt{\tau\lambda_3 + p}z_D\right). \quad (\text{B.7})$$

At the interacting surface between the rock matrix and fracture:

$$\overline{C_{mD}}(r_D, p) = \overline{C_{kD}}\left(z_D = b/d\sqrt{\frac{R_3A}{R_1D_d}}, p\right) = a \times \exp\left(-\sqrt{\tau\lambda_3 + p} \times b/d\sqrt{\frac{R_3A}{R_1D_d}}\right). \quad (\text{B.8})$$

So  $a$  can be solved as follow:

$$a = \overline{C_{mD}} \exp\left(\sqrt{\tau\lambda_3 + p} \times b/d\sqrt{\frac{R_3A}{R_1D_d}}\right). \quad (\text{B.9})$$

Substituting Eq. (B.9) into Eq. (B.7), the relationship between  $\overline{C_{kD}}$  and  $\overline{C_{mD}}$  can be reached:

$$\overline{C_{kD}} = \overline{C_{mD}} \exp\left[-\sqrt{\tau\lambda_3 + p}\left(z_D - b/d\sqrt{\frac{R_3A}{R_1D_d}}\right)\right]. \quad (\text{B.10})$$

From Eq. (B.5), the relation between  $\overline{C_{imD}}$  and  $\overline{C_{mD}}$  is as follow:

$$\overline{C_{imD}} = \frac{\omega}{\frac{\theta_{im} p R_2}{\tau} + \omega + \lambda_2 \theta_{im} R_2} \overline{C_{mD}} \quad . \quad (\text{B.11})$$

Substituting Eqs. (B.10)-(B.11) to Eq. (B.4):

$$\frac{\partial^2 \overline{C_{mD}}}{\partial r_D^2} - \frac{\partial \overline{C_{mD}}}{\partial r_D} - r_D \beta \overline{C_{mD}} = 0, \quad (\text{B.12})$$

$$\text{where } \beta = \left( \tau \lambda_1 + \tau_1 \sqrt{\tau \lambda_3 + p} + p + \frac{R_2}{R_1} \times \frac{(p + \lambda_2 \tau) \theta_1 \omega}{\frac{\theta_{im} p R_2}{\tau} + \omega + \lambda_2 \theta_{im} R_2} \right).$$

The Eq. (B.12) is an inhomogeneous differential equation. The general solution is

$$\overline{C_{mD}} = A_1 \times \exp\left(\frac{y}{2}\right) Ai\left(\beta^{\frac{1}{3}} y\right) + A_2 \times \exp\left(\frac{y}{2}\right) Bi\left(\beta^{\frac{1}{3}} y\right), \quad (\text{B.13})$$

where  $y = r_D + (4\beta)^{-1}$ .

Since  $Bi(\infty) \rightarrow \infty$ , to fulfill the boundary condition below:

$$\overline{C_{mD}}(r_D \rightarrow \infty, p) = 0. \quad (\text{B.14})$$

$A_2$  has to be zero. Now Eq. (B.13) is

$$\overline{C_{mD}} = A_1 \exp\left(\frac{y}{2}\right) Ai(\beta^{\frac{1}{3}} y). \quad (\text{B.15})$$

The boundary condition at the interacting surface of the injection well is given as:

$$\overline{C_{mD}}\left(r_{oD} = \frac{r_0}{d}, p\right) = \frac{1}{p} \quad . \quad (\text{B.16})$$

The parameter  $A_1$  can be expressed:

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{p} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} r_{oD} - \frac{1}{2} (4\beta)^{-1}\right) Ai^{-1}\left[\beta^{\frac{1}{3}}\left(r_D + (4\beta)^{-1}\right)\right]. \quad (\text{B.17})$$

Now, the solutions in the Laplace domain could be reached.

By using the dimensionless parameters above, the dimensionless masses stored in the fracture-rock matrix system of radial flow are given as:

$$M_{fmD} = \int_{r_{0D}}^{\infty} \frac{4\pi b \theta_m \sqrt{R_3 A}}{d \sqrt{R_1 D_d}} r_D C_{mD} dr_D, \quad (\text{B.18})$$

$$M_{fimD} = \int_{r_{0D}}^{\infty} \frac{4\pi b \theta_{im} \sqrt{R_3 A}}{d \sqrt{R_1 D_d}} r_D C_{imD} dr_D, \quad (\text{B.19})$$

$$M_{kD} = \int_{\frac{b}{d \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D_d}{R_3 A}}}}^{\infty} \int_{r_{0D}}^{\infty} 4\pi \theta_k r_D C_{kD} dr_D dz_D. \quad (\text{B.20})$$

**Appendix C: Reactive solute transport in an asymmetrical fracture-rock matrix system.**

The dimensionless variables used in this study are defied as follows:

$$C_D = C / C_0, \quad C_{1D} = C_1 / C_0, \quad C_{2D} = C_2 / C_0, \quad x_D = x / b, \quad z_D = \frac{z}{b} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}}, \quad t_D = \frac{D}{R b^2} t,$$

$$Pe = \frac{vb}{D}, \quad \alpha = \frac{Rb^2}{D}, \quad M_D = \frac{M}{C_0 \times b^2 \times \sqrt{\frac{R D_1}{R_2 D}}}, \quad M_{1D} = \frac{M_1}{C_0 \times b^2 \times \sqrt{\frac{R D_1}{R_2 D}}},$$

$$M_{2D} = \frac{M_2}{C_0 \times b^2 \times \sqrt{\frac{R D_1}{R_2 D}}}$$

With the help of those dimensionless parameters above, the non-dimensional governing equations (Eqs. (3.1)-(3.3)) are transformed to the dimensionless formats:

$$\frac{\partial C_D}{\partial t_D} = \frac{\partial^2 C_D}{\partial x_D^2} - Pe \frac{\partial C_D}{\partial x_D} - \lambda \alpha C_D + \frac{\theta_1}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_1}{R D}} \frac{\partial C_{1D}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D=z_{0D}} - \frac{\theta_2}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_2^2}{R D_1 D}} \frac{\partial C_{2D}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D=-z_{0D}}, \quad (C.1)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{1D}}{\partial t_D} = \frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{\partial^2 C_{1D}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_1 \alpha C_{1D}, \quad (C.2)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{2D}}{\partial t_D} = \frac{D_2}{D_1} \frac{\partial^2 C_{2D}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_2 \alpha C_{2D}. \quad (C.3)$$

After applying Laplace transform to Eqs. (C.1)-(C.3), the following equations would be obtained:

$$p \overline{C_D} = \frac{d^2 \overline{C_D}}{dx_D^2} - Pe \frac{d \overline{C_D}}{dx_D} - \lambda \alpha \overline{C_D} + \frac{\theta_1}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_1}{R D}} \frac{\partial \overline{C_{1D}}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D=z_{0D}} - \frac{\theta_2}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_2^2}{R D_1 D}} \frac{\partial \overline{C_{2D}}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D=-z_{0D}}, \quad (C.4)$$



$$p\overline{C_{1D}} = \frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{\partial^2 \overline{C_{1D}}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_1 \alpha \overline{C_{1D}}, \quad (\text{C.5})$$

$$p\overline{C_{2D}} = \frac{D_2}{D_1} \frac{\partial^2 \overline{C_{2D}}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_2 \alpha \overline{C_{2D}}, \quad (\text{C.6})$$

where  $p$  is the Laplace transform parameter in respect to the dimensionless time,  $t_D$  and overbar means the term in Laplace domain. From Eqs. (C.5)-(C.6), one has:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \overline{C_{1D}}}{\partial z_D^2} = \frac{R_1}{R_2} (\lambda_1 \alpha + p) \overline{C_{1D}}, \quad (\text{C.7})$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \overline{C_{2D}}}{\partial z_D^2} = \frac{D_1}{D_2} (\lambda_2 \alpha + p) \overline{C_{2D}}. \quad (\text{C.8})$$

The general solutions of the Eqs. (C.7)-(C.8) are:

$$\overline{C_{1D}} = A_1 e^{w_1 z_D} + B_1 e^{-w_1 z_D}, \quad (\text{C.9})$$

$$\overline{C_{2D}} = A_2 e^{w_2 z_D} + B_2 e^{-w_2 z_D}, \quad (\text{C.10})$$

$$\text{Where } w_1 = \sqrt{\frac{R_1}{R_2} (\lambda_1 \alpha + p)}, \quad w_2 = \sqrt{\frac{D_1}{D_2} (\lambda_2 \alpha + p)}.$$

Recalling the boundary conditions of rock matrix at infinity (Eq. (3.9)), Eqs. (C.9)-(C.10) can be further simplified as:

$$\overline{C_{1D}} = B_1 e^{-w_1 z_D}, \quad (\text{C.11})$$

$$\overline{C_{2D}} = A_2 e^{w_2 z_D}. \quad (\text{C.12})$$

After substituting in boundary conditions (Eqs. (3.6)-(3.8)), one can acquire:

$$\overline{C_{1D}} = \overline{C_D} \times \exp \left[ -\sqrt{\frac{R_1}{R_2} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha)} \left( z_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}} \right) \right], \quad (\text{C.13})$$

$$\overline{C}_{2D} = \overline{C}_D \times \exp \left[ \sqrt{\frac{D_1}{D_2}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha) \left( z_D + \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}} \right) \right], \quad (\text{C.14})$$

$$\text{where } k_1 = \lambda \alpha + p + \frac{\theta_1}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D_1}{R D}} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha) + \frac{\theta_2}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_2}{R D}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha).$$

Substituting Eqs. (C.13)-(C.14) and the first-type boundary condition Eq. (3.10) into Eq. (C.4), the final solutions and the diffusion loss under the first-type condition can be reached:

$$\overline{C}_D = \frac{1}{p} \exp \left( \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D \right), \quad (\text{C.15})$$

$$\overline{C}_{1D} = \frac{1}{p} \exp \left[ \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_1}{R_2}} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha) \left( z_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}} \right) \right], \quad (\text{C.16})$$

$$\overline{C}_{2D} = \frac{1}{p} \exp \left[ \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D + \sqrt{\frac{D_1}{D_2}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha) \left( z_D + \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}} \right) \right], \quad (\text{C.17})$$

$$\overline{q}_1 = \frac{1}{p} \frac{\theta_1 D_1}{b} \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D}{R D_1}} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha) \exp \left[ \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D \right], \quad (\text{C.18})$$

$$\overline{q}_2 = \frac{1}{p} \frac{\theta_2 D_2}{b} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_2}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha) \exp \left[ \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D \right]. \quad (\text{C.19})$$

It is the similar method to solve the problem under the third-type boundary condition Eq. (3.11), the final solutions are:

$$\overline{C}_D = \frac{1}{p} \times \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4k_1 / Pe^2}} \exp \left( \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D \right), \quad (\text{C.20})$$

$$\overline{C_{1D}} = \frac{1}{p} \times \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4k_1 / Pe^2}} \exp \left[ \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_1}{R_2}} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha) \left( z_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{RD_1}} \right) \right], \quad (C.21)$$

$$\overline{C_{2D}} = \frac{1}{p} \times \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4k_1 / Pe^2}} \exp \left[ \frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_1}}{2} x_D + \sqrt{\frac{D_1}{D_2}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha) \left( z_D + \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{RD_1}} \right) \right]. \quad (C.22)$$

Converting the mass stored in each domain (Eqs. (3.32)-(3.34)) into corresponding dimensionless formats defined above, the dimensionless mass per unit width stored in each domain is given as:

$$M_D = 2\theta \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{RD_1}} \int_0^\infty C_D dx_D, \quad (C.23)$$

$$M_{1D} = \int_{\sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{RD_1}}}^\infty \int_0^\infty C_{1D} \times \theta_1 dx_D dz_D, \quad (C.24)$$

$$M_{2D} = \int_{-\infty}^{-\sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{RD_1}}} \int_0^\infty C_{2D} \theta_2 dx_D dz_D. \quad (C.25)$$

For the back-diffusion problem, the water starts flushing the system after  $t_0$ . The diffusion coefficients after water flushing may change to  $D_{1b}$ ,  $D_{2b}$ ,  $D_b$ :

$$D_{1b} = a_1 D_1, \quad D_{2b} = a_2 D_2, \quad D_b = aD. \quad (C.26)$$

For the back-diffusion process, the governing equations are similar as:

$$\frac{\partial C_D}{\partial t_D} = a \frac{\partial^2 C_D}{\partial x_D^2} - Pe \frac{\partial C_D}{\partial x_D} - \lambda \alpha C_D + \frac{\theta_1 a_1}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_1}{RD}} \frac{\partial C_{1D}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D=z_{0D}} - \frac{\theta_2 a_2}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_2^2}{RD_1 D}} \frac{\partial C_{2D}}{\partial z_D} \Big|_{z_D=-z_{0D}}, \quad (C.27)$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{1D}}{\partial t_D} = a_1 \frac{R_2}{R_1} \frac{\partial^2 C_{1D}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_1 \alpha C_{1D}, \quad (\text{C.28})$$

$$\frac{\partial C_{2D}}{\partial t_D} = a_2 \frac{D_2}{D_1} \frac{\partial^2 C_{2D}}{\partial z_D^2} - \lambda_2 \alpha C_{2D}. \quad (\text{C.29})$$

Following the similar method, the solutions during back diffusion are:

$$\overline{C_D}' = -\frac{1}{p} \exp\left(\frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_2 a}}{2a} x_D\right), \quad (\text{C.30})$$

$$\overline{C_{1D}}' = -\frac{1}{p} \exp\left[\frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_2 a}}{2a} x_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_1}{a_1 R_2}} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha) \left(z_D - \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}}\right)\right], \quad (\text{C.31})$$

$$\overline{C_{2D}}' = -\frac{1}{p} \exp\left[\frac{Pe - \sqrt{Pe^2 + 4k_2 a}}{2a} x_D + \sqrt{\frac{D_1}{a_2 D_2}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha) \left(z_D + \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D}{R D_1}}\right)\right], \quad (\text{C.32})$$

$$\text{where } k_2 = \lambda \alpha + p + \frac{\theta_1}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_1 D_1 a_1}{R D}} (p + \lambda_1 \alpha) + \frac{\theta_2}{2\theta} \sqrt{\frac{R_2 D_2 a_2}{R D}} (p + \lambda_2 \alpha).$$

The overall final solutions are:

$$C = \begin{cases} f(x, z, t) & t \leq t_0 \\ f(x, z, t) + g(x, z, t - t_0) & t > t_0 \end{cases}, \quad (\text{C.33})$$

where  $f(x, z, t)$  is the solution (Eqs. (C.15)-(C.17)) before water flushing,  $g(x, z, t)$  is the solution (Eqs. (3.30)-(3.31)) during water flushing time period.

**Appendix D: Reactive solute transport in a fully coupled asymmetric stratified system, comparison of scale dependent and independent dispersion schemes.**

The governing equation of solute transport in the permeable layer is as follow:

$$\theta R \frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} \right] - \theta v \frac{\partial C}{\partial x} - \theta \lambda R C - \frac{q_1}{2b} - \frac{q_2}{2b}. \quad (\text{D.1})$$

The terms  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  refer to the diffusive mass entering the less permeable layers, which are expressed as:

$$q_1 = -\theta_1 D_1 \left. \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial z} \right|_{z=b}, \quad (\text{D.2})$$

$$q_2 = \theta_2 D_2 \left. \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial z} \right|_{z=-b}. \quad (\text{D.3})$$

A contaminant source at constant concentration is placed at the left boundary condition, which is also called the first type boundary condition and is expressed as:

$$C(x=0, t) = C_0. \quad (\text{D.4})$$

The governing equations of solute transport in the upper layer (layer 1) and lower layer (layer 2) are respectively:

$$R_1 \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} = D_1 \frac{\partial^2 C_1}{\partial z^2} - \lambda_1 R_1 C_1, \quad (\text{D.5})$$

$$R_2 \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial t} = D_2 \frac{\partial^2 C_2}{\partial z^2} - \lambda_2 R_2 C_2. \quad (\text{D.6})$$

The entire system is free of solute at beginning:

$$C(x, t=0) = C_1(x, z, t=0) = C_2(x, z, t=0) = 0. \quad (\text{D.7})$$

The permeable layer is considered as infinitely long and the less permeable layers are considered as infinity thick. Thus, we have:

$$C(x \rightarrow \infty, t) = 0, \quad C_1(x, z \rightarrow \infty, t) = 0, \quad C_2(x, z \rightarrow -\infty, t) = 0. \quad (\text{D.8})$$

The concentrations at the interfaces of different layers are continuous:

$$C_1(x, z = b, t) = C(x, t), \quad C_2(x, z = -b, t) = C(x, t). \quad (\text{D.9})$$

The technique of Laplace transform is adopted here. Eqs. (D.1), (D.5) and (D.6) are then transformed into Laplace domain as:

$$D(x) \frac{d^2 \bar{C}}{dx^2} + \left[ \frac{dD(x)}{dx} - v \right] \frac{d\bar{C}}{dx} - \Psi \bar{C} = 0, \quad (\text{D.10})$$

$$R_1 \bar{C}_1 = D_1 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{C}_1}{\partial z^2} - \lambda_1 R_1 \bar{C}_1, \quad (\text{D.11})$$

$$R_2 \bar{C}_2 = D_2 \frac{\partial^2 \bar{C}_2}{\partial z^2} - \lambda_2 R_2 \bar{C}_2, \quad (\text{D.12})$$

where  $\Psi = pR + \lambda R + \frac{\theta_1}{2b\theta} \sqrt{(p + \lambda_1)R_1 D_1} + \frac{\theta_2}{2b\theta} \sqrt{(p + \lambda_2)R_2 D_2}$ ,  $p$  is the Laplace

transform parameter and the over bar means the terms in Laplace domain.

With the consideration of continuous concentration at interfaces of layers (Eq. (D.9)), Eqs.

(D.11)-(D.12) can be solved as follows:

$$\bar{C}_1 = \bar{C} \times \exp \left[ -\sqrt{\frac{pR_1 + \lambda_1 R_1}{D_1}} (z - b) \right], \quad (\text{D.13})$$

$$\bar{C}_2 = \bar{C} \times \exp \left[ \sqrt{\frac{pR_2 + \lambda_2 R_2}{D_2}} (z + b) \right]. \quad (\text{D.14})$$

For the case of a linear scale-dependent dispersivity, one has:  $D(x) = \alpha(x) \times v + D_0$ , where  $\alpha(x) = kx$ . Substituting this relationship into Eq. (D.10), we have:

$$(kvx + D_0) \frac{d^2 \bar{C}}{dx^2} + [kv - v] \frac{d\bar{C}}{dx} - \Psi \bar{C} = 0. \quad (\text{D.15})$$

Defining a new variable  $\xi_1 = \sqrt{kvx + D_0}$ , then the equation above turns to:

$$\xi_1^2 \frac{d^2 \bar{C}}{d\xi_1^2} + \left[1 - \frac{2}{k}\right] \xi_1 \frac{d\bar{C}}{d\xi_1} - \left(\frac{2}{kv}\right)^2 \xi_1^2 \Psi \bar{C} = 0. \quad (\text{D.16})$$

This equation has the form of the following Bessel equation:

$$\xi_1^2 \frac{d^2 \bar{C}}{d\xi_1^2} + [1 - 2\gamma] \xi_1 \frac{d\bar{C}}{d\xi_1} + (-\delta^2 \eta^2 \xi_1^{2n} + \gamma^2 - \gamma^2 \eta^2) \bar{C} = 0, \quad (\text{D.17})$$

where  $\gamma = \frac{1}{k}$ ,  $\delta = \frac{2}{kv} \sqrt{\Psi}$ ,  $\eta = 1$ . It have been proven that  $\xi_1^\gamma I_\gamma(\delta \xi_1^\eta)$  and  $\xi_1^\gamma K_\gamma(\delta \xi_1^\eta)$  are two independent special solutions of the equation, where  $I_\gamma(x)$  and  $K_\gamma(x)$  are the first and second kinds of modified Bessel functions with the order  $\gamma$ .

Therefore, the general solution of this equation is:

$$\bar{C} = \xi_1^\gamma \{A_1 K_\gamma(\delta \xi_1) + B_1 I_\gamma(\delta \xi_1)\}, \quad (\text{D.18})$$

where  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  are two constants. According to the boundary condition (Eq. (D.8)), when  $\xi_1 \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\bar{C}$  is finite. Thus,  $B_1$  equals to zero. The solution could be simplified as:

$$\bar{C} = \xi_1^\gamma A_1 K_\gamma(\delta \xi_1). \quad (\text{D.19})$$

After substituting in boundary condition  $\bar{C}(x=0, p) = \frac{C_0}{p}$ , one can acquire:

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{P} \frac{C_0}{(\sqrt{D_0})^\gamma K_\gamma(\delta\sqrt{D_0})}. \quad (\text{D.20})$$

The final solution in Laplace domain can be derived now as:

$$\bar{C} = \xi_1^\gamma \frac{1}{P} \frac{C_0}{(\sqrt{D_0})^\gamma K_\gamma(\delta\sqrt{D_0})} K_\gamma(\delta\xi_1). \quad (\text{D.21})$$

For the case of an exponential scale-dependent dispersivity, the dispersivity can be expressed as:  $\alpha(x) = a(1 - e^{-k_1x})$ . Thus, the governing equation could be rewritten as:

$$\left[ a(1 - e^{-k_1x}) \times v + D_0 \right] \frac{d^2\bar{C}}{dx^2} + \left[ ak_1ve^{-k_1x} - v \right] \frac{d\bar{C}}{dx} - \Psi\bar{C} = 0. \quad (\text{D.22})$$

Defining two variables:  $\xi_2 = He^{k_1x}$ ,  $H = 1 + D_0 / (av)$ , Eq. (D.22) can be expressed as:

$$\xi_2(1 - \xi_2) \frac{d^2\bar{C}}{d\xi_2^2} - \left( 1 - \frac{1}{ak_1H} \right) \xi_2 \frac{d\bar{C}}{d\xi_2} + \frac{1}{Havk_1^2} \Psi\bar{C} = 0. \quad (\text{D.23})$$

The above equation has the form of the following Gauss hypergeometric equation:

$$\xi_2(1 - \xi_2) \frac{d^2\bar{C}}{d\xi_2^2} + \left[ Q - (1 + m + n) \right] \xi_2 \frac{d\bar{C}}{d\xi_2} - mn\bar{C} = 0, \quad (\text{D.24})$$

$$\text{where } Q = 0, \quad m = \frac{1}{2ak_1H} \left[ -1 + \sqrt{1 + \frac{4aH}{v}\Psi} \right], \quad \text{and } n = \frac{1}{2ak_1H} \left[ -1 - \sqrt{1 + \frac{4aH}{v}\Psi} \right].$$

As  $1 \leq \xi_2 \leq \infty$ , the solution can be written in terms of the hypergeometric function as follows:

$$\bar{C} = A_2 \xi_2^{-m} F(m, m+1; m-n+1; \xi_2^{-1}) + B_2 \xi_2^{-n} F(n, n+1; n-m+1; \xi_2^{-1}), \quad (\text{D.25})$$



where  $F(m, m+1; m-n+1; \xi_2^{-1})$  and  $F(n, n+1; n-m+1; \xi_2^{-1})$  are the Gauss hypergeometric functions.

In terms of the outlet boundary condition (Eq. (D.8)), the concentration remain finite when  $\xi_2 \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus, the  $B_2$  must equal zero as  $n$  is less than zero. The solution can be simplified as:

$$\bar{C} = A_2 \xi_2^{-m} F(m, m+1; m-n+1; \xi_2^{-1}). \quad (\text{D.26})$$

After substituting  $\bar{C}(x=0, p) = \frac{C_0}{p}$ ,  $A_2$  could be solved as:

$$A_2 = \frac{C_0 \left(1 + \frac{D_0}{av}\right)^m}{p F\left(m, m+1; m-n+1; \left(1 + \frac{D_0}{av}\right)^{-1}\right)}. \quad (\text{D.27})$$

The final solution is then derived as:

$$\bar{C} = \frac{C_0 \left(1 + \frac{D_0}{av}\right)^m}{p F\left(m, m+1; m-n+1; \left(1 + \frac{D_0}{av}\right)^{-1}\right)} \xi_2^{-m} F(m, m+1; m-n+1; \xi_2^{-1}). \quad (\text{D.28})$$