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Loss of strict hyperbolicity in Riemann solutions for vertical three-phase flow in porous media

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- The horizontal two-phase flow injection problem was solved by Buckley and Leverett in 1942.
- The B-L equation for two-phase flow with gravity is solved through Oleinik's construction, (ex., Proskurowski (1981)).
- Isaacson, Marchesin, Plohr, Temple, Paes Leme, Seabra, De Souza, Furtado, etc, contributed to solve the R-P for immiscible horizontal three-phase flow.
- We present a class of Riemann solutions for immiscible three-phase flow with gravity.

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Physical Problem and Simplifications

- The porosity φ and the absolute permeability of the rock k are constant.
- The fluids are immiscible and there is no mass interchange between phases.
- The flow occurs uniformly in the vertical direction filling the entire porous medium.
- The fluids are incompressible.
- There are no sources or sinks.



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Mass Conservation and Darcy's Law.

Conservation of mass

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\phi \mathbf{s}_i + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}}\mathbf{u}_i = 0 \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \tag{1}$$

where s_i denotes saturation and \mathbf{u}_i is the velocity of each phase.

Darcy's law

$$\mathbf{u}_{i} = -k \frac{k_{r,i}}{\mu_{i}} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \rho_{i} g \right) \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \tag{2}$$

p is the pressure, $k_{r,i}$ is the relative permeability, μ_i is the viscosity and ρ_i is the density for each phase *i*.

Deriving the System of Conservation Laws.

$$\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{u}f_i + k\Lambda_i \sum_{j \neq i} f_j \rho_{ij} g, \quad i = 1, 2, 3,$$
(3)

where $\rho_{ij} = \rho_i - \rho_j$.

Mobilities and fractional flow functions

$$\Lambda_i = k_{r,i}/\mu_i, \qquad f_i = \frac{\Lambda_i}{\sum_{j=1}^3 \Lambda_j}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3.$$

We use the quadratic Corey permeability model

$$k_{r,i}(\mathbf{s}_i) = \mathbf{s}_i^2. \tag{4}$$

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System of Conservation Laws

Dimensionless equations for vertical three-phase flow

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{s}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} (\alpha f_i(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2) + \mathbf{G}_i(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2)) = \mathbf{0}, \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \quad (5)$$

where

$$\alpha = rac{\mathbf{u}}{\mathbf{u}_{\mathsf{ref}}} = rac{\mathbf{u} \ \mu_{\mathsf{ref}}}{\mathcal{K}_{\mathsf{ref}} \
ho_{\mathsf{ref}} \ g}$$

is the convection/gravity ratio (later we will set $\alpha = 0$). Since $\sum s_i = 1$ there is a redundant equation.

Gravitational Fluxes

$$\begin{array}{rcl} G_1 &=& k\Lambda_1 \big((1-f_1)\rho_{13}+f_2\rho_{32} \big), \\ G_2 &=& k\Lambda_2 \big((1-f_2)\rho_{21}+f_3\rho_{13} \big), \\ G_3 &=& k\Lambda_3 \big((1-f_3)\rho_{32}+f_1\rho_{21} \big). \end{array}$$

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Umbilic and quasi-umbilic points

Umbilic point

A coinc. point S^* is an umbilic point of $S_t + [F(S)]_x = 0$ if

- (H1) $dF(S^*)$ is diagonalizable.
- (H2) There is a neighborhood \mathcal{V} of S^* such that dF(S) has distinct eigenvalues for all $S \in \mathcal{V} S^*$.

Quasi-umbilic point

A coincidence point S^* is a quasi-umbilic point \Leftrightarrow (H2) holds but (H1) fails.

Coincidence diagonalization curve

A coincidence diagonalization curve is a curve of coincidence points along which condition (H2) fails but condition (H1) holds.

Coincidence Points









$\alpha = \mathbf{0},\, \rho_{\mathbf{1}} > \rho_{\mathbf{2}} > \rho_{\mathbf{3}}$

 V_i are umbilic points, Q_i are quasi-umbilic points.

$\alpha = 0$, $ho_1 = ho_2 eq ho_3$

 V_3 is an umbilic point, Q_1 , Q_2 are quasi-umbilic points, $\partial 3$ is a coincidence diagonalization line.

$\alpha \neq 0$ small, $\rho_1 > \rho_2 > \rho_3$

 V_i and U_{α}^* are umbilic points, Q_i^{α} are quasi-umbilic points.

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Coincidence Points



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Schaeffer-Shearer Cone and Deviator operator

$$Dev(dF(s_1, s_2)) = dF - \frac{1}{2}tr(dF)I = \begin{bmatrix} X & Y+Z \\ Y-Z & X \end{bmatrix}$$
(6)
$$(s_1, s_2) \longrightarrow (X, Y, Z)$$



Wave groups and Riemann solutions

- The Riemann solutions consist of two wave groups separated by a constant state.
- Each wave group consists on a sequence of rarefaction waves and adjacent shock waves.
- Shock waves must satisfy the Generalized Lax conditions.
- No 1-wave is preceded by a 2-wave.
- Parameterized by wave curves (Liu).



Generalized Lax Shock Waves and TSR

Generalized Lax 1-shock and 2-shock waves

1-shock:
$$\lambda_1(S^+) \le \sigma \le \lambda_1(S^-)$$
, and $\sigma < \lambda_2(S^+)$. (7)
2-shock: $\lambda_2(S^+) \le \sigma \le \lambda_2(S^-)$, and $\lambda_1(S^-) < \sigma$. (8)

At most one equality in (7), (8).

Triple Shock Rule (TSR)

Assume that the states S_1 , S_2 and S_3 satisfy $S_2 \in \mathcal{H}(S_1)$, $S_3 \in \mathcal{H}(S_2)$ and $\sigma(S_1, S_2) = \sigma(S_2, S_3)$ then $S_3 \in \mathcal{H}(S_1)$ and $\sigma(S_1, S_3) = \sigma(S_1, S_2) = \sigma(S_2, S_3)$.

i-Inflection manifold

States *S* such that $\nabla \lambda_i(S) \cdot r_i(S) = 0$

i-Boundary extension manifold

States S for which exist S' such that

 $S \in \mathcal{H}(S')$ with S' on the boundary and $\lambda_i(S) = \sigma(S, S')$.

(i, j)-Double contact manifold

States S for which exist states S' such that

$$S' \in \mathcal{H}(S)$$
 with $\lambda_i(S) = \sigma(S, S') = \lambda_j(S')$,

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 Solutions for general buoyancy-driven problem (three fluids with distinct densities) are "superpositions" of the solutions of simplified cases EHD and ELD.





Figure: Integral curves for both families. The arrows indicate increasing characteristic speed. The dots represent the Inflection curves.

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Wave curve for EHD. Left state in $\partial 3$, right state V_3 .

- $P_{S_L}^1$ satisfies $\sigma(S_L, P_{S_L}^1) = \lambda_1(P_{S_L}^1) < 0.$
- $P_{S_M}^1$ satisfies $\sigma(P_{S_M}^1, S_M) = \lambda_1(P_{S_M}^1) > 0.$
- σ(P¹_{S_M}, S_M) < σ(S_M, V₃) (speed compatibility!!!)
- Dominant phase in S_L remains "dominant" along the solution: The triangles $V_3-B_3-V_2$ and $V_3-B_3-V_1$ are invariant in the solution.



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Example of Riemann solution in EHD







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Wave curves in ELD: $\alpha = 0$, $\rho_3 = \rho_2 < \rho_1$



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RP for three-distinct densities



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