

**EFFECT OF DRILLING FLUIDS ON ROCK  
SURFACE PROPERTIES**



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## CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that IFEANYI OBINNA DESMOND an undergraduate student in the Department of Petroleum Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Benin, Edo state, with Matriculation number ENG1704399 satisfactorily completed this work on his own as a partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of Bachelor Degree in Engineering (B.Eng) in Petroleum Engineering.

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## **DEDICATION**

This project is dedicated to God for His mercy and protection and for the knowledge he has enabled me to acquire.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My sincere gratitude goes to God Almighty for giving me the moral, courage and enthusiasm to embark on this project. Project which has opened my eyes to the different technology advancements under the scope of study of the work.

I appreciate the efforts of my parents Mr. and Mrs. Ifeanyi for bringing me up morally and academically. I must register my profound gratitude to my parent for their guide, moral and financial supports.

I wish to appreciate the University of Benin for giving me this great opportunity. I also wish to appreciate the Head of department, Petroleum Engineering, Dr. S.A. Igbidere

It is pertinent at this juncture to appreciate the efforts of my project supervisor Engr. Isaac Omoregbe for his support and encouragement.

## **ABSTRACT**

The interaction between drilling fluids and rock surfaces is a critical aspect of drilling operations in the oil and gas industry. This study investigates the multifaceted effects of drilling fluids on rock surface properties, including alterations in surface roughness, wettability, and chemical composition. The research employs a combination of laboratory experiments and analytical techniques to analyse the impact of various drilling fluids, such as water-based, oil-based, and synthetic muds, on different rock types commonly encountered in drilling operations.

The findings reveal that drilling fluids play a significant role in modifying rock surface characteristics. Water-based fluids tend to increase rock wettability, while oil-based fluids can reduce it. Furthermore, the study explores the implications of these changes on drilling efficiency, wellbore stability, and reservoir connectivity. Understanding these effects is crucial for optimizing drilling fluid selection and designing drilling strategies that enhance overall drilling performance and reservoir productivity.

This research contributes valuable insights into the complex interplay between drilling fluids and rock surfaces, aiding in the development of more efficient and sustainable drilling practices in the energy industry.

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## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The importance of a drilling Fluid cannot be over emphasized in a drilling program because it is the circulating fluid used in drilling to perform any or all of the various functions required in the drilling of a well for the exploration of petroleum which is a mixture of mainly hydrocarbon and other compounds like Nitrogen, Sulphur in trace amount. It can exist in a mixture of phases, gaseous, liquids and solids depending on the conditions of temperature to which it is being subjected.

Water and oil are satisfactory drilling fluids in some instance. In general, however the functions to be performed require mud properties that cannot be obtained from ordinary liquids. Consequently, a typical mud consists of:

- A continuous phase (liquid phase)
- A dispersed gel-forming phase such as colloidal solids and/or emulsified liquids that furnish the desired viscosity, thixotropy and wall cake.

Many additives for almost any conceivable purpose were introduced and that was how the simple fluid became a complicated mixture of liquids, solids and chemicals that we refer to as our drilling mud. The primary functions of the mud can be summarized as follows

#### **1.1. PRIMARY FUNCTIONS OF MUD**

##### **1.11 BOTTOM HOLE CLEANING**

Bottom hole cleaning in general is improved by having thin fluids at high Shear rates through the bit. Meaning that viscous fluids can be potentially good fluids for this purpose if they have good shear thinning characteristics. In general, a fluid with low solids content is the best fluid for bottom hole cleaning.

##### **1.12 DRILLING STRING LUBRICATION**

The life of an expensive equipment can be prolonged by adequate cooling lubrication and hole problems such as torque, drag and differential pressure sticking are related directly to lubrication. Thus lubricants include: bentonite, oil, detergents, graphite, asphalt, special

surfactant and walnut hulls Bentonite acts as a lubricant only backaches it is shell when wet and reduces frictions between the wall cake and the drill string

Oil is a very good lubricant in drilling mud, but its associated disposal problem limits its use. Detergents are also good lubricants Graphite added with oil to enhance its effectiveness is a good lubricant used mostly in areas where high rotation torques are a problem.

Asphalt in oil-based mud is often used as a low gravity solids phase and as been used to help stabilize shale by a claimed process of plugging off micro fractures in the shale, and less frequently used as a lubricant. Most surfactants are expensive and their benefits should be careful analyses. It is also true that some special surfactants claimed to acts as lubricant and are being introduced by many companies Walnut hulls and similar product shell reduce torque or daze, however their use can become very expensive because in general they must be added in quantity everyday.

### **1.13 CONTROL SUBSURFACE PRESSURES**

As a result of the problems introduced in the selection of mud weight to control subsurface pressures, it is therefore desirable to utilize minimum mud weights. As mud weight is decreased, drilling rates are increased and lost circulation problems are minimized. Actual mud weight requirements in the normal range vary in different sections of adequate weight to control subsurface pressures. In coastal areas a mud weight of 9.2ppg may be required.

Abnormally high formation pressures require careful measurements of prove pressures to determine mud weight requirements. Even a careful measurement of pore pressures may result in wide variation in mud weights used by companies drilling wells in the same areas This means that their interpretations were different and some emphasis should be dedicated to a determination of why the differences exist.

### **1.14 PROJECT FORMATION PRODUCTIVITY**

Formation damage introduced through the invasion of mud or filtrate is very often blamed on non-commercial hydrocarbon zones. The downhold formation is kept in its virgin state with no fluid entering the zone. This is not always the case as productive zones are sometimes drilled with air in order to keep liquid off the formation.

Formation productivity has been maintained effectively through this method. The productive horizons of many areas could be drilled using an oil bases mud to keep water out of the zone. But in gas zone it may be more damaging that a salt water fluid. Formation damage could also be minimized through the use of water and high calcium content fluids effectively to some degree.

### **1.15 AID TO FORMATION EVALUATION**

Drilling Fluids have been affected substantially by formation evaluation requirements. Viscosity has been increased to obtain: better cuttings, filtration rate has been reduced to minimize fluid invasion special fluids have been selected to improve logging characteristics and mud have been changed to improve formation testing.

### **1.16 LIFT FORMATION CUTTING**

This is perhaps the most important function of drilling mud. The drill solids have an average specific gravity of 25 and when heavier than the mud being used to drill the hole, they slip downward through the mud.

The slip velocity of cuttings, while the fluid is in viscous or Laminar flow, is affected directly by the thickness or shear characteristics of the mud. It is necessary to thicken the mud to reduce the slip velocity of the formation to kept the hole clear, when the annular mud velocity is limited by pump volume or enlarged hole sections encountered.

A water-based mud may be thickened by adding bentonite, by adding large quantities of drill solids, by flocculation of the solids or by the use of special additives. Thus the alternatives selected will depend on other objectives desired to be accomplished. While Bentonite is a cheap alternative it is also faced with water loss control problems and a thinner may be added to prevent flocculation

Addition of large quantities of solids will also increase mud weight. Planned flocculation of the mud is also cheap and an easy alternative out again is controlled by limitations that are placed on filtration control Lastly special additives are acceptable alternatives too but they increase mud cost.

All these simple decisions on thickening the mud to increase lifting capacity all appear to complicate the resultant effects the thickening method may have on other objective hence special procedures have to be determined by considering the actual problems at the time they occur.

## 1.20 ANALYSIS OF MUD COMPOSITION

Specially drilling mud consists of liquids and solids. The liquids may be mixed or varied and various types of solids may be entrained in the mud. Furthermore, chemicals are very often added. Table 1.7 shows the composition of mud.

**TABLE 1.1:**

Liquid	Solid
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fresh Water</li> <li>2. Salt Water</li> <li>3. Oil</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Low gravity-specific Gravity=2.5               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Non-reactive, sands, chart, Limestone, some shale's</li> <li>(b) Reactive solids, clays.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. High gravity               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Barite-specific gravity of 4.2 (b) Iron Ore and lead sulfide- Specific grant = 7.0</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

## 1.21. LIQUIDS

Fresh water is the base of most mud. Fresh water is generally accessible, cheap, and easy to control even when loaded with solids and provides the best liquid for formation evaluation. Salt water has become more common due to its accessibility in the ever-expanding offshore operations. In application, salt-water mud should be considered special purpose mud, which is basically more expensive to use than fresh water mud, and the operators should consider carefully the best and cheapest method of application.

Oil, as a base fluid has also been used for many years. Oil was initially used to protect potentially productive formations. Because clays do not hydrate or swell in oil, formation damage is minimized in oil zones. Oil also has the advantage that it minimized hole problems. There are so far many recorded successful applications and oils for this purpose dating back to more than hole problems were

- (1) the shall zones would not enlarge due to strangling and
- (2) the better lubrication would minimize torque and drag problems.

## **1.22 SOLIDS**

Solids are divided into two groups, low and high gravity. The low gravity Solids are further divided into non-reactive and reactive group. As the terms infer, non-reactive solids are those that do not react to a change in environment. The low gravity non-reactive solids consist of sand, clay, limestone, dolomite, shale and mixtures of many minerals.

These solids are in general undesirable and when larger than 15 microns in size, they may create an erosive environment that is detrimental to circulating equipment. The API classification for sand is any solid greater than 74 microns in size, however, many solids smaller than sand are detrimental to equipment.

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1 BASIC PROPERTIES OF DRILLING MUD

During any drilling operation it is vitally important to control the physical properties of the mud. The properties are controlled at such values that the mud given optimum performance. Few of the most important properties of control are viscosity, oil strength, filtration, mud density, rheology etc.

#### 2.11 VISCOSITY AND GEL STRENGTH

Viscosity and gel strength are related to

- (1) Removal of cuttings
- (2) Holding cuttings and weight materials in suspension when not circulating.
- (3) Releasing cutting at the surface
- (4) Reducing to a minimum any adverse effect upon the well bore and
- (5) Providing information about formation penetrated.

Viscosity is defined as resistance to flow, and routinely, field measurements are made with a Marsh funnel. The Marsh funnel viscosity is an accepted field measurement. It is timed rate of flow and measured in seconds per quarter or in metric units seconds per 1000ml. No one-funnel viscosity can be taken to represent a correct value for all mud. What works well in one area may fail in another, but in general a rule of thumb may be applied. The desired viscosity of most mud is controlled at.

- (1) Four times mud weight (lb/gal) or less or
- (2) One half the mud weight (lb/cu. ft) or less

There are exceptions, such as where high viscosity muds are necessary as in the mud continental area.

A rotational viscometer gives more meaningful information concerning viscosity. It measures viscosity in centipoises and are capable of determining the reason for abnormal viscosity. They are also used to measure oil strength. Oil strength is another important property of drilling fluid and it is a measure of the gelling or Thixotropic property of the mud under static conditions and is generally reported in pounds per hundred square feet (lb/100sq ft)

Viscosity and gel strength increase during drilling. Penetration of the formations by the bit contributes active solids, were solids and contain migrants to the system. This can cause increased viscosity and or gel strength to levels which may not be acceptable. In general, when these occurs, water or chemicals or both may be added to control them.

Drilling problems associated with abnormal viscosities and gel strength include:

- 1) Use of excessive pump pressure to break circulation, or higher pressures required circulating the mud
- 2) Lost circulation as a result of pressure surges
- 3) Entrainment of gas in the mud which may promote a blow-out.
- 4) Swabbing of gas or salt water into the hole.
- 5) Sand and cutting being carried in excessive amount contributing to abrasive action on rig parts.
- 6) Swabbing of shale into the borehole

## **2.12 FILTRATION**

Equally important are the filtration properties of the fluids. A satisfactory fluid loss value and deposition of a thin filter cake are often the determining factors for the successful performance of a drilling mud.

Two types of filtration are present. These are dynamic filtration and static filtration - when the fluid is at rest

Dynamic filtration differs from static filtration that the flow of mud by the wall of the borehole tends to erode away the filter calces as it is deposited by the filtration process. The filter cake builds up until the rate of deposition equals the rate of erosion. When the filter cake reaches an equilibrium thickness the rate of filtration becomes constant. This is in contrast to static filtration where the cake continues to grow thicker with time and the rate of filtration continues to decrease in the same period of time, static filter cake will be thicker than dynamic cake and the static rate of filtration will be less than the dynamic rate. Therefore, to control the amount of filtrate lost to a formation, we must control dynamic filtration and if we want to prevent deposition of thick filter cakes, we must control static filtration.

Loss fluid (usually water) from the mud into the formation only occurs when the permeability is such that it will allow the passage of fluid between the Pore openings. If the openings are large enough, the first effect is a mud spurt that enters into these openings at the

fact of the well bore. Then as additional fluid is lost, a build up of the solids i.e., wall cake is formed on the wall face.

The laws of filtration do not go into effect until a filter bed is set up in the form of a filter cake. This filter cake is composed of the mud solids, being made up of native solids, I found in the well bore and the different kinds of solids added at the upper More important than the actual solids content of the mud is the participle size, shape and distribution. In order to obtain the bent impossible filter cake, careful consideration should be given not only to the base motherless need for fluid loss control, but to participle size distribution.

Problems resulting from improper filtration control include tight sports causing drag, swabbing due to thick wall cake, differential pressure sticking, cementing problems, formation damage due to filtrate and filter cake invasion.

### **2.13 RHEOLOGY OF THE DRILLING FLUID**

Rheology is the science of deformation and flow of matter. By simply making certain measurements on fluid, we can determine how this fluid will flow under a variety of different conditions. With this information we can design a circulating system that will accomplish certain desired objective. The two most important properties of drilling fluids given an indication to the flow characteristics of the drilling fluid. This characteristic is the aforementioned Rheology of the drilling fluid.

### **2.14 MUD DENSITY**

The density of drilling mud is normally measured with a mud balance of scale. These are engaged instruments, easily calibrated, and lead themselves to field use. Hydrometers are also used although not so common. Density is reported generally in pounds per gallon; hence a 10-pound mud is one having a density of 101b/al Density is best reported as a pressure gradient. However, the mud density has a great influence on the penetration rate i.e., we lower mud weight to increase penetration rate and increase mud weight to reduce penetration rate in the formation.

## CHAPTER 3

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

Practice has revealed that some fluids used for core drilling completion and work over, damage the reservoir rock properties in the near hole vicinity because of the creation of an emulsion, the hydration of clays, the migration of fines from the formation, the precipitation of salts, the modification of wettability etcetera Likewise solids present in such fluids may penetrate into the porous medium and reduce flow possibilities. The productivity of production wells may be affected for one or several of these reasons.

The same damage occurs in reservoir rock samples taken for the purpose of carrying out laboratory experiments. The changes in the wettability parameter in such a case is very important because of the role they play during experiments to determine capillary pressure, relative permeabilities and displacement efficiency, all of which are indispensable for making production forecasts. This is where the problem of representative of laboratory samples set in.

Findings showing that the wettability of rock/fluid systems is modified as the result of contamination by various drilling fluids dates back to the late 1950's. But for some 30 years, many changes have occurred in the composition of drilling mud, especially with regard to oil-based mud, and little laboratory research has been done recently on the topic under consideration.

This project will concentrate on evaluating the wettability change obtained as a result of the contact between three porous media having different natures and 10 drilling fluids-five oil-based and five water based fluids. For the oil-based fluids, the analysis will include both highly hydrophilic samples and samples with neutral or intermediate wettability. The change in wettability at a distance of 0.6 in (1.5cm) from the solid/drilling mud contact surface would also be evaluated For the water based drilling fluids, experiments would be performed solely with samples that were originally highly hydrophilic Likewise when great changes in wettability are observed, cleaning by solvents is performed to try to resolve the original wettability.

### 3.1 EXPERIMENTAL

Rocks: A pure sandstone (Fontainebleau sandstone), a shale sandstone (visage sandstone), and a carbonate (Rouffach Limestone), all three taken from outcrops, would be used. Their mineralogical composition, as well as porosities and permeabilities are as given in the table 3.1 below.

**Table 3.1 COMPOSITION AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE THREE POROUS MEDIA**

POROUS MEDIUM	COMPOSITION (wt %)					CHARACTERISTICS
Fontainebleau Sandstone (Pure Sandstone)	100	-	-	-	9.4-13.9	76-606*
					12.8-14.9	200-7894**
					9.7-10.6	147-193+
Vosage Sandstone	86	9	5	-	21.4-12.5	117-1786*
					19.0-20.5	38-89**
					22.1-227	64-117+
Rouffach Limestone	12	2	-	86	17.8-19.2	38-112*
					16.5-18.4	74-9**
					17.7-19.1	35-105+

\*Sample 1.6” in 0 & \*\*Sample 2.75”- oil based fluids

+ sample 1.6 in 0 – water based fluid

**FLUIDS:** The composition of five oil based drilling fluids is given in Table 3.2, while that of the five water based drilling fluids is given in Table 3.3. the brine used was 30g/L of Nad. The oils use were soltrol 130m refined oil (at 68°F (+120°C), density was 57.17 API (0.75g/cm<sup>3</sup>) and viscosity was 1.6cp- (1.6 mpas) and a crude oil (at 68°F (+120°C), density was 20 32° API) 0.932g/cm<sup>3</sup>) and viscosity was 450cp (450 mpa s) The letter oil contained 10.6 wt% asphattenes and 6.9 wt% resins. It also has an acid number of 05 mg KOH/g and a base number of 1.8mg KOH/g.

### **3.2 PREPARATION OF SAMPLES**

Samples 1.6 in (4cm) in diameter and 2.2in (5.5cm) long were cut from blocks of the three porous media. To simulate the case of highly hydrophilic reservoir rocks before contact with mud, the samples were prepared by saturation with brine following by refined soltrol - oil flooding to establish initial oil and brine saturations, S and S. To simulate the case of Originally less hydrophilic reservoirs, flooding by refined oil was replace with flowing by crude oil. Then the sample considered were "aged" in this same oil for 10 days at 176° (80°C) under pressure.

Samples 2.75 in (7.0cm) in diameter and 3.35 in (8.5cm) long were also cut out and saturated with brine and refined oil. As would be seen they are used for studying the penetration of mud constituents beyond the rock/mud contact surface

**TABLE 3.2 COMPOSITION OF OIL – BASED – DRILLING FLUID (For 1L)**

INGREDIENTS	DRILLING FLUIDS				
	A	B	c	D	E
<b>Diesel oil/water</b>	<b>90/100</b>	<b>70/30</b>	<b>50/50</b>	<b>90/10</b>	<b>70/30</b>
<b>Lime,g</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>CaCl<sup>2</sup>,g/L (ageous phase)</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>NaCl, g/L (aqueous phase</b>	-	-	<b>100</b>	<b>144</b>	
<b>Barites,g</b>	-	<b>310</b>	-	-	-
<b>Carbotec - LT, Cm<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	-	-	-
<b>Carbo-mul<sup>TM</sup>,g</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	-	-	-
<b>Emulfor ST <sup>TM</sup>,g</b>	-	-	<b>40</b>	-	-
<b>Emulfor ER<sup>TM</sup>,g</b>	-	-	<b>60</b>	-	-
<b>Invermul <sup>Tm</sup>,g</b>	-	-	-	<b>5,4</b>	-
<b>Duratone<sup>TM</sup>,g</b>	-	-	-	<b>2.7</b>	-
<b>EZ mud <sup>Tm</sup></b>	-	-	-	<b>3.6</b>	-
<b>Kenol S<sup>TM</sup> cm<sup>3</sup>,g</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>28</b>
<b>Imco-VR ,g</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>9</b>

**TABLE 3.3 – COMPOSITION OF WATER BASED DRILLING FLUID (1L)**

INGREDIENTS	DRILLING FLUIDS				
	A	B	C	D	E
Water cm <sup>3</sup>	1000	500 (fresh)+ 500(sea)	1000 (sea)	1000(fresh)	1000(fresh)
NaOH,g	0.62	2.5	-	NA	NA
KOH,g	-	-	3	-	-
Na <sup>2</sup> co <sup>3</sup> ,g	-	5	-	-	-
K <sup>2</sup> co <sup>3</sup>	-	-	10	-	-
KCl,	-	-	150	-	45
Bentomite,g	17.5	50	-	NA	-
Attapulgate,g	-	50	-	-	-
Lignosulfonate (Brixel NF2),g	-	25	-	-	-
CML	2.5	5	-	-	-
Formaldehyde,g	0.62	-	-	-	-
Polymer,g	2.5	-	1	5	5
Biopolymer,g	-	-	3	-	-
Alcomer 120L/40	-	-	6	-	-
Starch	-	-	-	-	NA

\*CMC – Sodium Carboxymethyl Cellulose

After initial oil and brine saturations were established and after aging in crude oil for the simulation of less hydrophilic reservoirs, the samples were placed in a cell containing the drilling fluid previously heated to 176°F (80%) and homogenized according to API specification 13A. Then with the samples submerged in the drilling fluid, the temperature was maintained at (76°F (+80°C) and a pressure of 10 bar 10° Pa who was established on the mud phase for about 10 hours finally, the temperature was reduced to 68°F (20°C) and the pressure to atmospheric pressure for 10 days. The measurers were earned out to simulate possible contamination conditions of reservoir rock samples.

After being aged in the oil-or-water based drilling fluid, samples 16 in (4.0 cm) in diameter were rinsed lightly with refined oil to remove any solid deposits present on the surface before the evaluation of their wettability. After being aged in the oil-based drilling fluids, sample 2.75 in 2.75 in (7.0cm) in diameter were cut out with soltrol 130 as the bit lubricant to remove 0.6 in (1.5cm) of matter from all their faces.

Selection of sample 1.6 inches in diameter taken from sample 2.75 inch in diameter. This operation reduced them to the size of the proceeding's samples. The wettability can then be evaluated

An identical treatment was performed by submerging the samples in the diesel oil used as the oil based for preparing the oil-based drilling fluids, to be able to separate the possible influence of diesel oil from the influence of the other ingredients

### **3.3 EVALUATION OF WETTABILITY**

For the purpose of this project the wettability would be evaluated by a text very similar to that proposed by Amott. This type of test is considered one of the most reliable ways of evaluating wettability in the Petroleum Profession. We check to see that no asphaltenes precipitation occurred during the soltrol 130/crude oil contact for samples containing crude - oil.

During previous research the maximum deviation of the wettability index around the average value was evaluated for sample batches having identical or very similar characteristics. The following result were said to be obtained. For Fontainebleau sandstone of 50to 150md. the wettability index was 0.68 and the maximum deviation was 0.10. for both fountain lean sandstone > 300 md and vosage sandstone (shaly) of 500 to 1,600 md, the wettability index

was 1.0 and the maximum deviation was 0.0. For rouffach Limestone of 5 to 20md, the Wettability index was 0.85 and the maximum deviation was 0.12.

### **3.4 CLEANING**

The sample was cleaned after the wettability test was performed on samples "contaminated" by one of the drilling fluids. For samples initially saturated by brine and refined oil, the following sequence was used.

1. Isopropyl alcohol (30pv)
2. Toluene saturated by water (50pv)
3. Methanol (a few Pv)

For sample saturated by brine and crude oil, the sequence was

1. Toluene saturated by water (30 pv) and
2. Toluene + methanol mixture (70:30) (50 Pv) by displacement, with a counter pressure down steam from the samples when necessary. Then drying was done at 176°F (80°C) with controlled humidity. The samples were then saturated by brine and Soltrol 130 refined oil to evaluate their wettability after cleaning.

### 3.5 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Oil Based Drilling Fluids. Strongly hydrolytic System.

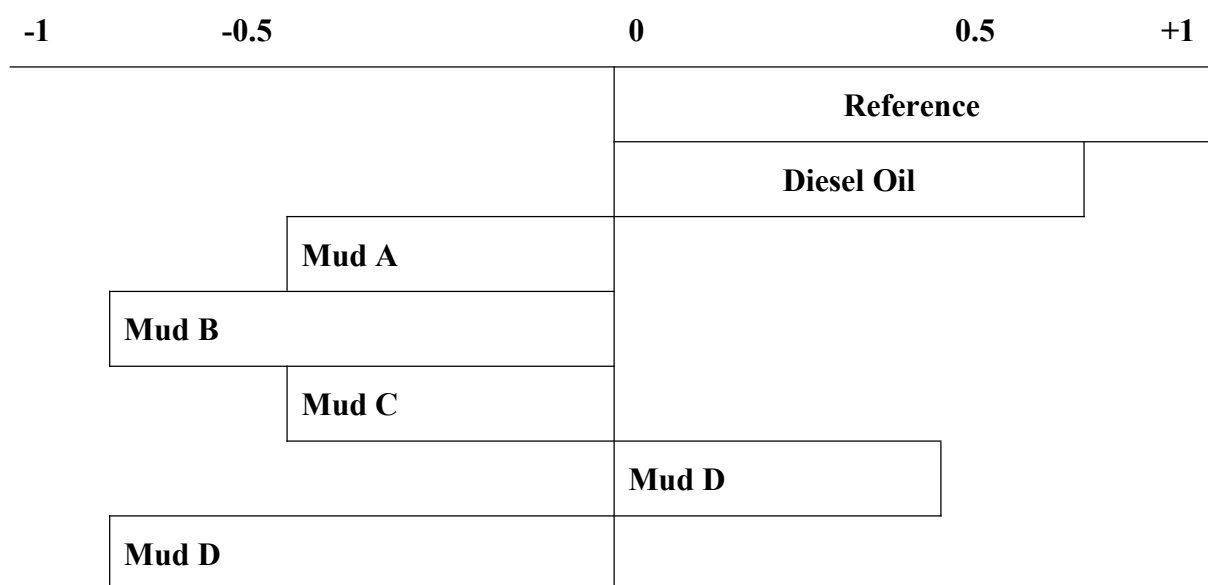
**Table 3.4 WETTABILITY INDEXS AND PERMEABILITY VALUES BEFORE CONTAMINATION, AFTER CONTAMINATION WITH DIESEL OIL OR MUD, AND AFTER CLEANING CASE OF STRONGLY WATER WET SYSTEM**

TYPE OF ROCK	SAMPLE CONSIDERED	ORIGINAL AFTER CONTAMINATION			AFTER CONTAMINATION AND CLEANING		
		Kw (md)	Lw	(Ko at Sor) (kw at Sor)	Kw (md)	lw	(Ko at Sor) (kw at Sor)
Sandstone	Reference	177	+0.85	8.2*			
	Reference	576	+1	17.1 *			
	Diesel Oil	76	+0.76	84			
	Mud A	606	-0.36	1.2	555	+1	6.2
	Mud B	537	0.61	1	524	+0.95	3.3
	Mud C	111	=0.56	1	58	+0.67	10.2
	Mud D	244	-0.06	1 4	114	+0.95	li.9
	Mud E	580	-0.29	1 0	460	+0.8	4.8
Shaly Sandstone	Reference	117	+1	7.9*			
	Reference	1,096	+0.91	8.8*			
	Diesel Oil	503	+1	6.7			
	Mud A	1,786	-0.73	1 5	854	+0.81	5.5
	Mud B	601	-0.38	0.9	430	+0.92	7.3
	Mud C	500	-0.78	0.2	169	+1	10.9
	Mud D	230	-0.32		151	+0.8	23
	Mud E	626	-0.29	0.7	463	+1	12.5

<b>Carbonate</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>+1</b>	<b>5.0*</b>			
	<b>Reference</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>+0.60* *</b>	<b>10.0*</b>			
	<b>Diesel Oil</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>+0.35</b>	<b>10.2*</b>			
	<b>Mud A</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>-0.42</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>+0.82</b>	<b>5.7</b>
	<b>Mud B</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>-0.35</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>+0.8</b>	<b>28</b>
	<b>Mud C</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>+0.55</b>	<b>29</b>
	<b>Mud D</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>+0.01</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>+0.56</b>	<b>3.3</b>
	<b>Mud E</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-0.35</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>0.73</b>	
<b>* Not contaminated</b>							
<b>** Abnormally low value</b>							

**WETTABILITY**

**CARBONATE**



**SHALY SANDSTONE**

	<b>Reference</b>
	<b>Diesel Oil</b>
<b>Mud A</b>	
<b>Mud B</b>	
<b>Mud C</b>	
<b>Mud D</b>	
<b>Mud E</b>	

**SANDSTONE**

	<b>Reference</b>
	<b>Diesel Oil</b>
<b>Mud A</b>	
<b>Mud B</b>	
<b>Mud C</b>	
	<b>Mud D</b>
<b>Mud D</b>	

**FIG 3.1: WETTABILITY EVALUATION ORIGINALLY AFTER CONTAMINATION WITH DIESEL OIL OR VARIOUS OIL B BASED DRILLING FLUIDS**

Table 3.4 and fig 3.1 gives clearly the values of the wettability index

1. In the so-called reference state (with no contamination)

2. After contact with the diesel oil used for preparing the drilling fluids and After contact with each of the five oil-based drilling fluids investigated. After permeability for the samples from the porous medium blocks was not homogenous, so the reference test for each porous medium was performed on two samples having quite difference permeabilities. If the value of +0.6 obtained for one of the Limestone samples is not counted (abnormally) low value, probably linked to poor recovery during one of the forced displacements of the wettability test) the values obtained can be considered to be in satisfactory agreement with the ones generally measured for the porous media considered.

Figure 3.1 gives the wettability index on the reference state for the average of this values - i.e., + 0.92 for the sandstone, +0.96 for the shaly sandstone, and +0.80 for the carbonate The values also given in Table 4 for the  $(K_o \text{ at } S_{or})/K_w \text{ at } S_{or}$  ratio are between 5 and 17 1 All these result show that the three porous media are strongly hydrophilic with regard to the brine/soltrol 130 oil system.

Contact with diesel oil reduces the affinity the carbonate for water, while the wettability index drops from 0.8 to 0.35. Even though the rated for the extreme permeability prompts remains high. For the other two porous medias the effect is nil or very weak. This result is in keeping with the findings by various other research projects with regard to the greater tendency of carbonates to have interactions with the components of crude oils.

The presence of surfactant in the oil-based drilling fluids cause a sharp decrease in the water/oil interfacial tension (IFT) when this phase in contaminated by one of the muds. Several values are given as in Table 5 below.

**TABLE 3.5-IFT VALUES FOR VARIOUS OIL/BRINE SYSTEMS**

<b>Nature of the oil phase</b>	<b>Soltrol 130</b>	<b>Diesel Oil</b>	<b>Mud A in Soltrol (5wt%)</b>	<b>Mud B in Soltrol (5wt%)</b>
<b>Initially in</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>After 5 min</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>After 25 min</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>Nature of the oil phase</b>	<b>Mud C in Soltrol (5wt%)</b>	<b>Mud D in Soltrol (1wt%)</b>	<b>Mud B in Soltrol (5wt%)</b>	<b>Mud D in Soltrol (5wt%)</b>
<b>Initially in</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>After 5 min</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>After 25 min</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

One consequence was the existence of an emulsion at the outlet from the samples during some forced displacements by buire performance during the wettability test. It is not always possible to break up this emulsion entirely, and the volume of "oil" recovered many have been overestimated in a few cases. Therefore, the bol/solid ratio may have been underestimated by value between 0 and 0.05, with the same error occurring for the wettability index cause by contact with one of the oil based mud. Indeed in 13 out of 15 cases, a reversal of the wettability was obtained ( $I_w = 0.29$  to  $-0.80$ ), with the last two concerning mud D showing a natural or intermediate wettability ( $1_w = +0.01$ ) and  $+0.06$ ). The variation in the wettability index compared with the reference state (variation between 0.79 and 1.74) or better yet, compared with the value obtained after contact with the diesel oil (variation between 0.34) and 1.78), nonetheless depends on the porous medium and the mud considered permeability end points are between 0.2 and 1.5, considerably lower that during some forced displacements by buire performance during the wettability test. It is not always possible to break up this emulsion entirely, and the volume of "oil" recovered many have been overestimated in a few cases. Therefore, the bol/solid ratio may have been underestimated by value between 0 and 0.05, with the same error occurring for the wettability index. This error

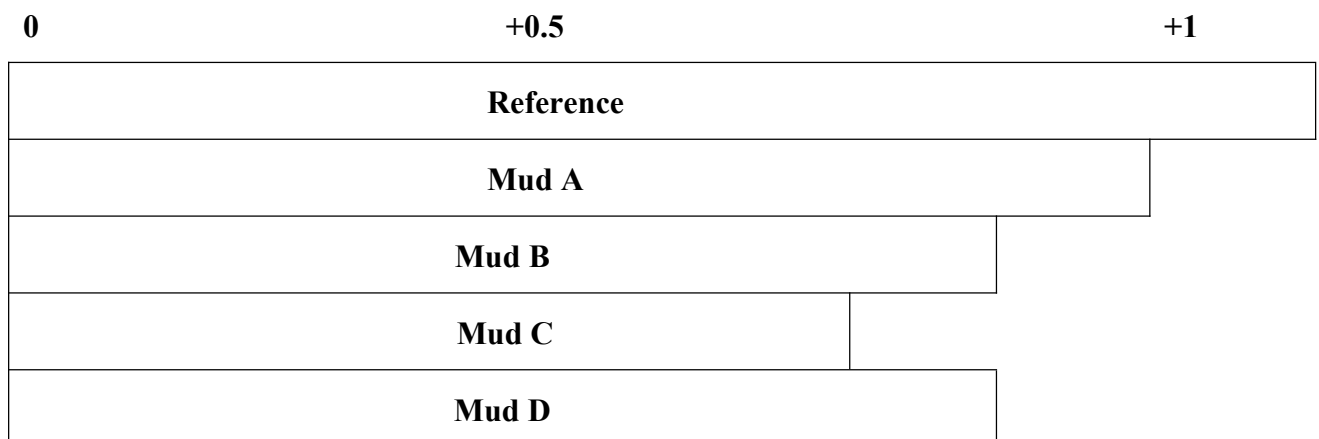
however is very straight compared with the variation in the wettability index caused by contact with one of the oil-based mud. Indeed in 3 out of 15 cases, a reversal of the wettability was obtained ( $I_w = -0.29$  to  $-0.80$ ), with the 1st two concerning mud D showing a natural or intermediate wettability ( $I_w +0.01$ ) and  $+0.06$ ) The variation in the wettability index compared with the reference state (variation between 0.79 and 1.74) or better yet, compared with the value obtained after contact with the diesel oil (variation between 0.34 and 1.78), nonetheless depends on the porous medium and the mud considered permeability end points are between 0.2 and 1.5, considerably lower than previously

From these findings, it is not possible to attribute the effect observed on the wettability index to any given constituent of the fluids. Indeed, several constituents of the oil-based mud have a polar nature. Among these constituents are complex organic soaps, asphalted compounds, and mixtures of various surfactants Additional experiments would be necessary for evaluating the role of each type of constituents which unfortunately is not the goal of this project.

### 3.6 CLEANING OF CONTAMINATED SAMPLES.

Once again we evaluate the wettability of the samples previously contaminated by one for the five-oil based mud after been cleaned. The result also appears on the Table 3.4 previously given as well as in Figure 3.2

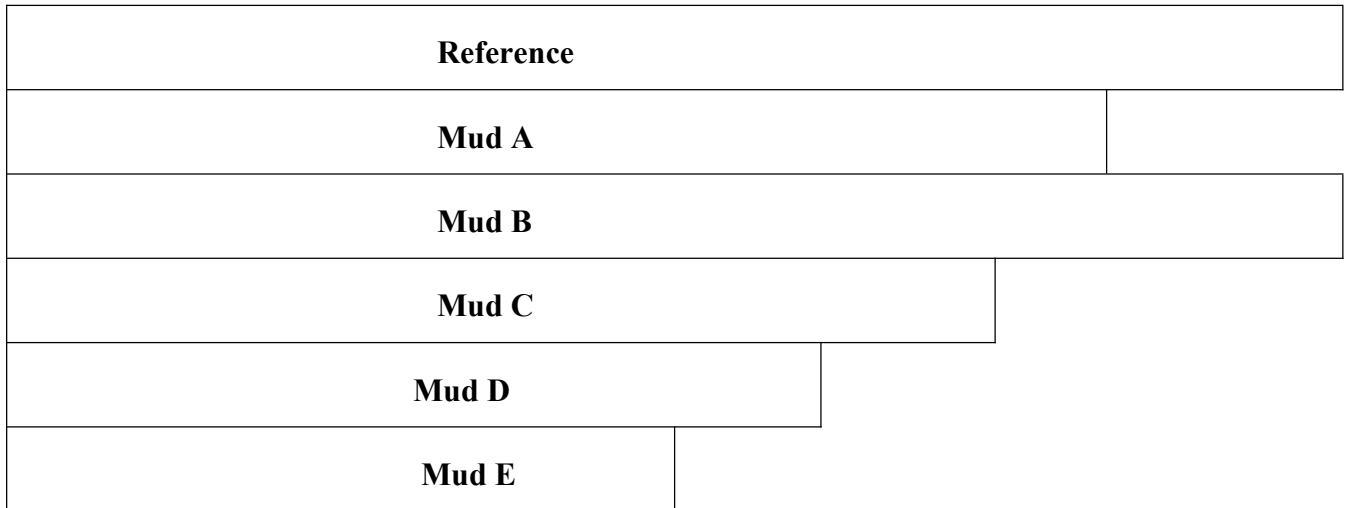
**FIG 3.2 WETTABILITY EVALUATION AFTER CLEANING CASE OF ORIGINALLY STRONGLY WATER WET SAMPLES CONTAMINATION BY VARIOUS OIL BASED DRILLING FLUIDS SANDSTONE**



**Mud E**

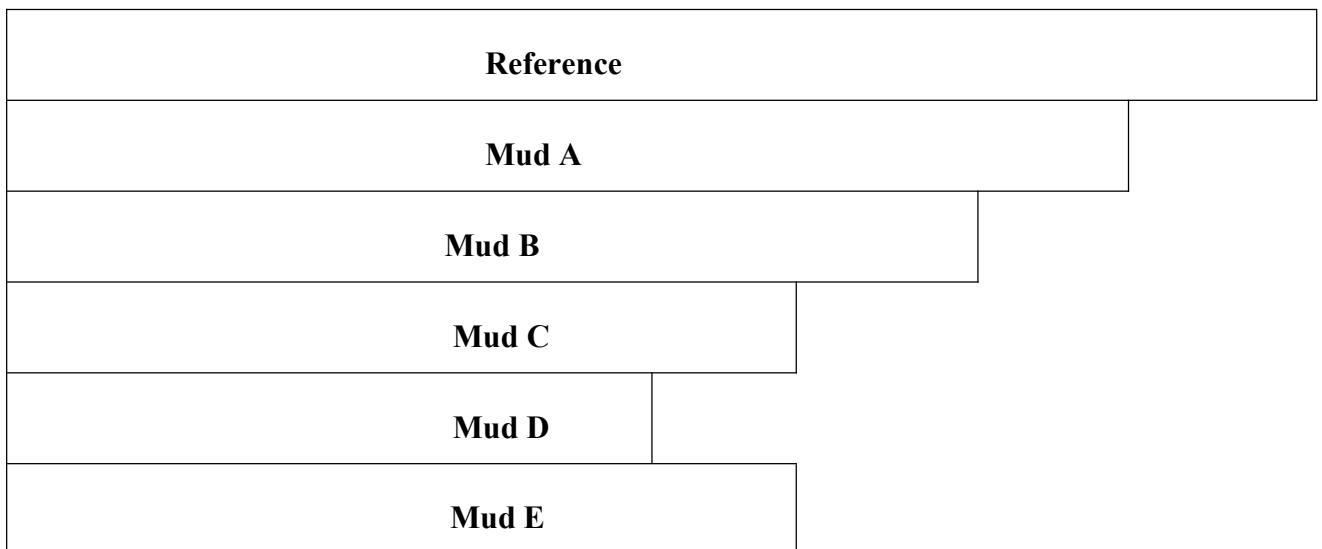
**CALVEY SANDSTONE**

**0** **+0.5**



**CARBONATE**

**0** **+0.5** **+1**



In light of the values obtained for the wettability index, the entire samples regain strongly hydrophilic properties. The wettability index is usually also close to the reference value. Likewise, the values of the (K, at S,) (K, at 5,) ratio increased and often reach the same order of magnitude s those obtained in the so-called reference state

The original hydrophilicity of the different samples considered was restored in suitable way without trying to adapt the cleaning procedure to each type of contamination" By optimizing the cleaning procedure, the wettability index obtained would probably have been very close to the reference value in all cases. Therefore, it can reasonably be expected, in the case of strongly water wet reservoirs, that if only samples taken with oil-based mud should be available for laboratory studies, carefully selected cleaning would enable the original  $\alpha$  wettability of the solid surface to be restored A similar conclusion was reached after similar careful work by Wend el et al. We also need pay careful attention to rocks having high clay content, and this is even more important because these clays are more reactive.

Considering the results obtained by Jennings and Gant and Anderson, we can assume efficiency of cleaning is not a result of the use of influence but rather of the use of alcohols

It must also be pointed out that after cleaning, the original permeability of samples is not found. The decrease in permeability is between 2% and 66% of the original value as we have on Table 3.3. Nothing particular distinguishes the shaly rock from the other two rocks The decrease, we attribute to the penetration of particles (solid) coming from the drilling fluids, thus reducing flow possibilities. It should however be borne in mind that the samples were taken from the heart of large-diameter reservoir-rock samples

### **3.7 EVALUATION OF CONTAMINATION 0.6 INCH (1.5CM) FROM THE ROCK/DRILLING MUD CONTACT SURFACE,**

The manner of preparation of samples remains same as those of the experimental section. The results are grouped in Fig 4 compared with the reference state without contamination; the change in surface properties 06 in (0.5cm) from the rock/mud contact surface is as follows:

1. Non existence in one case (Mud A with sandstone)
2. Slight in two cases (Mud B and E with carbonate) and
2. Great in the 12 other cases.

Therefore in most of the cases, mud components penetrate to at least 0.6 in (15cm) from the contact surface, with important. Consequence for the wettability if these results are compared with those previously obtained with samples not reduced in size,

it can be that the effect is reduced in 12 cases, identically in two cases, and greater in one case. This last result is not however easy to explain.

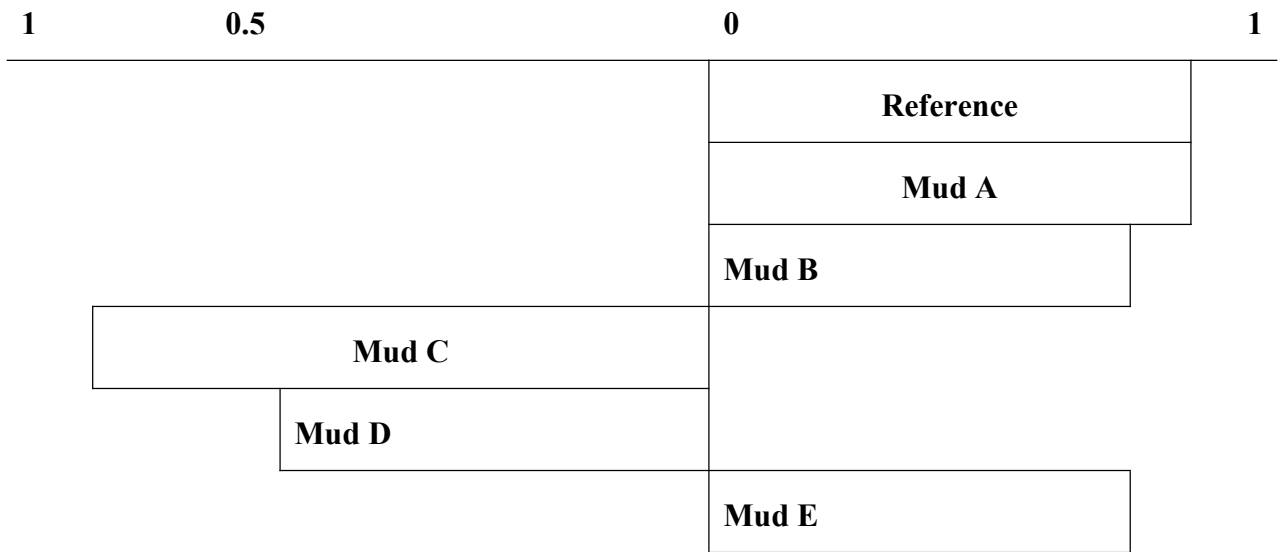
Moreover, from the identification of the presence of some 'traders', it was found that the oil based drilling fluid used in taking the rock sample from an oil reservoir had penetrated to the heart of these samples. The samples considered had a diameter of 4 inches (10cm) and high permeability.

### **3.8 LESS STRONGLY HYDROPHILIC SYSTEMS**

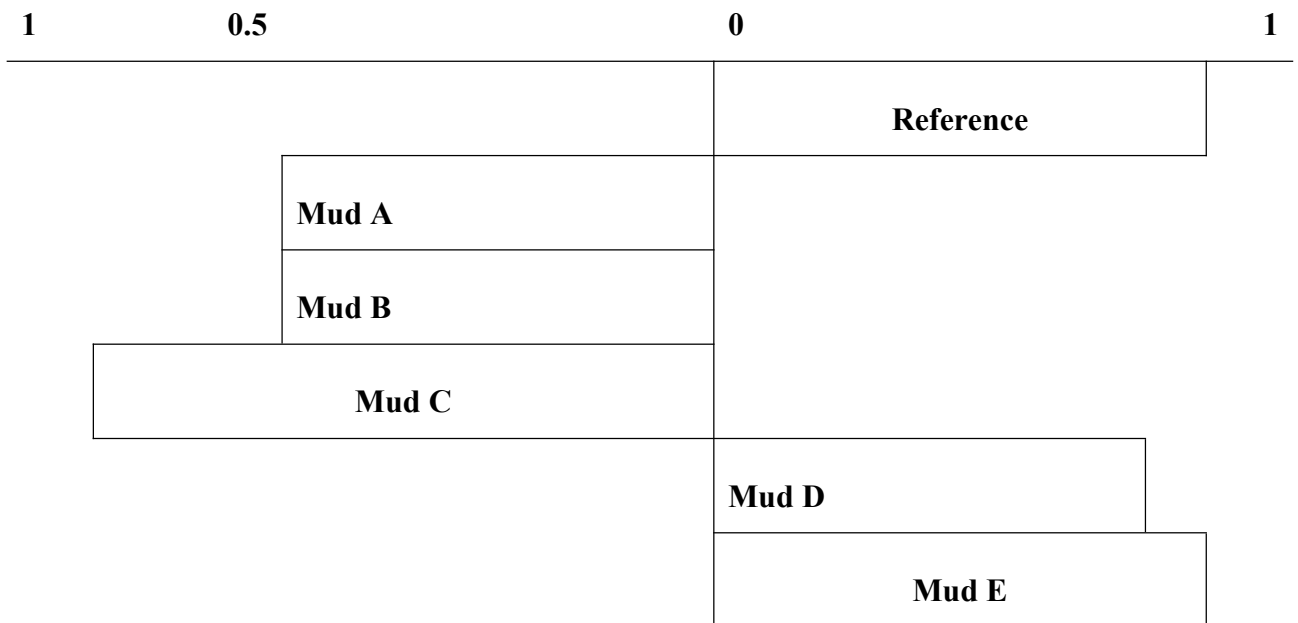
After the establishment of initial crude oil and brine saturations and aging, the carbonate and the sandy sandstone had neutral wettability, with wettability index of 40.13 and +0.01 respectively. Spontaneous displacement of one fluid by the other was found in both directions. This result is interpreted by the adsorption of polar or heavy compounds from the crude oil on some portions of the solid surface of these two media, however no change

**WETTABILITY INDEX,  $1_w$**

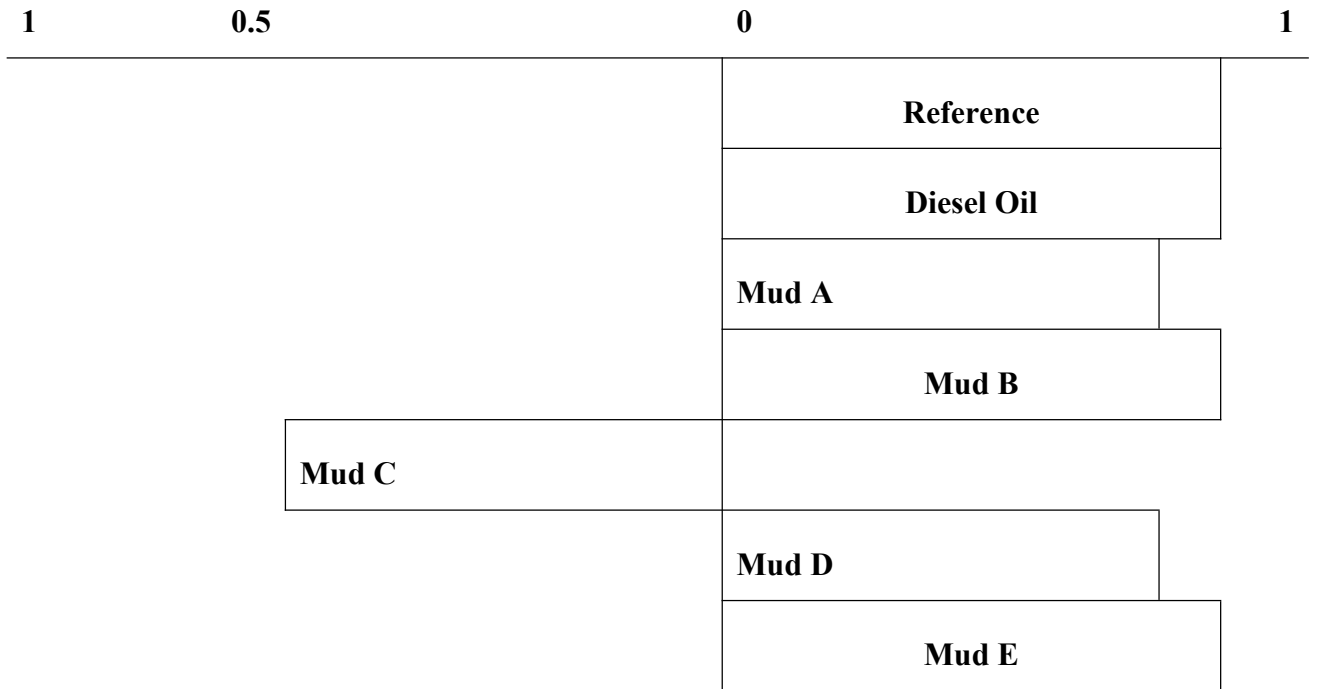
**SANDSTONE**



**CLAYVEY SANDSTONE**



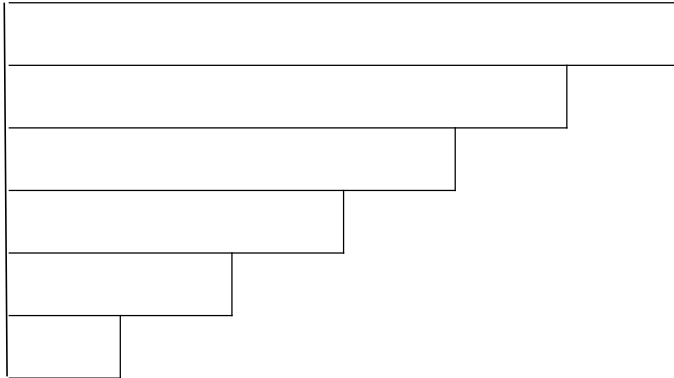
**CARBONATE**



**FIG 3.3 WETTABILITY EVALUATION OF SAMPLES 1.6 INCHES IN DIAMETER TAKEN FROM SAMPLES 2.75IN DIAMETER ORIGINALLY AFTER CONTAMINATION WITH DIESEL OIL OR VARIOUS OIL BASED DRILLING FLUIDS**

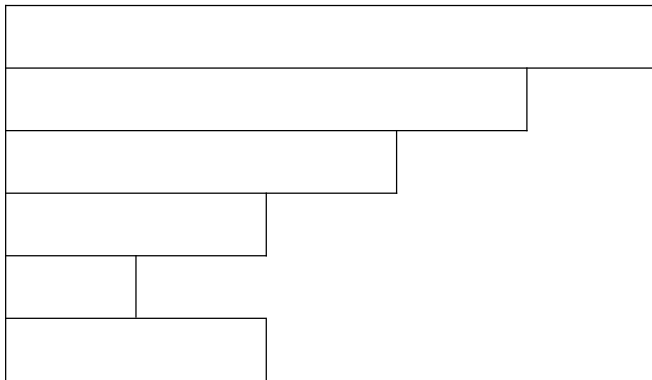
**WETTABILITY INDEX,  $1_w$**

**SANDSTONE**



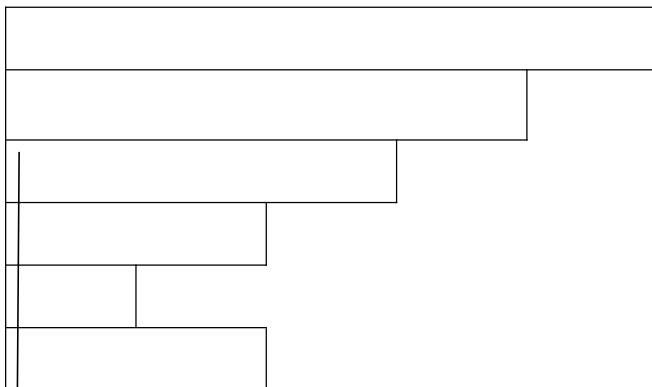
**WETTABILITY INDEX,  $1_w$**

**CLAYVEY SANDSTONE**



**WETTABILITY INDEX,  $1_w$**

**CARBONATE**



**FIG 3.4 WETTABILITY EVALUATION OF SAMPLES CONTAMINATED WITH VARIOUS DRILLING FLUIDS. CASE OF SAMPLES PREVIOUSLY EQUILIBRATED WITH AN ASPHALTIC CRUDE OIL**

For this part of this study, three of the five muds were used. For the sandstone, drilling mud B makes the rock strongly Oleophilic ( $I_w = 0.69$ ). An identical value (0,61) had been obtained. When the rock was initially saturated by referred oil. On the other hand, the presence of crude oil alternates the consequences of the contact of this porous medium alternates the consequences of the contact of this porous medium with Drilling mud C, with neutral wettability being obtained in these cases instead of oil wettability. For shale sandstone, drilling mud B, C and D either do not change or only slightly change the neutral wettability of the rock. For the carbonate, the effect caused by Drilling Mud D is also non- existent, whereas treatments with mud B and C cause a decrease in the wettability index of 0.27 and 0.63, respectively

From porous media previously "equilibrated" with crude oil, the change in surface properties caused by subsequent contact with an oil-based mud is generally insufficient to bring the wettability index to the level obtained when the mud contacts rock containing refined oil. The sites on the solid surface occupied by component from the crude oil are obviously not available for components from the drilling mud. Furthermore, the crude oil already fixed on the solid seems to hinder the adsorption of component from the drilling mud on the site still available.

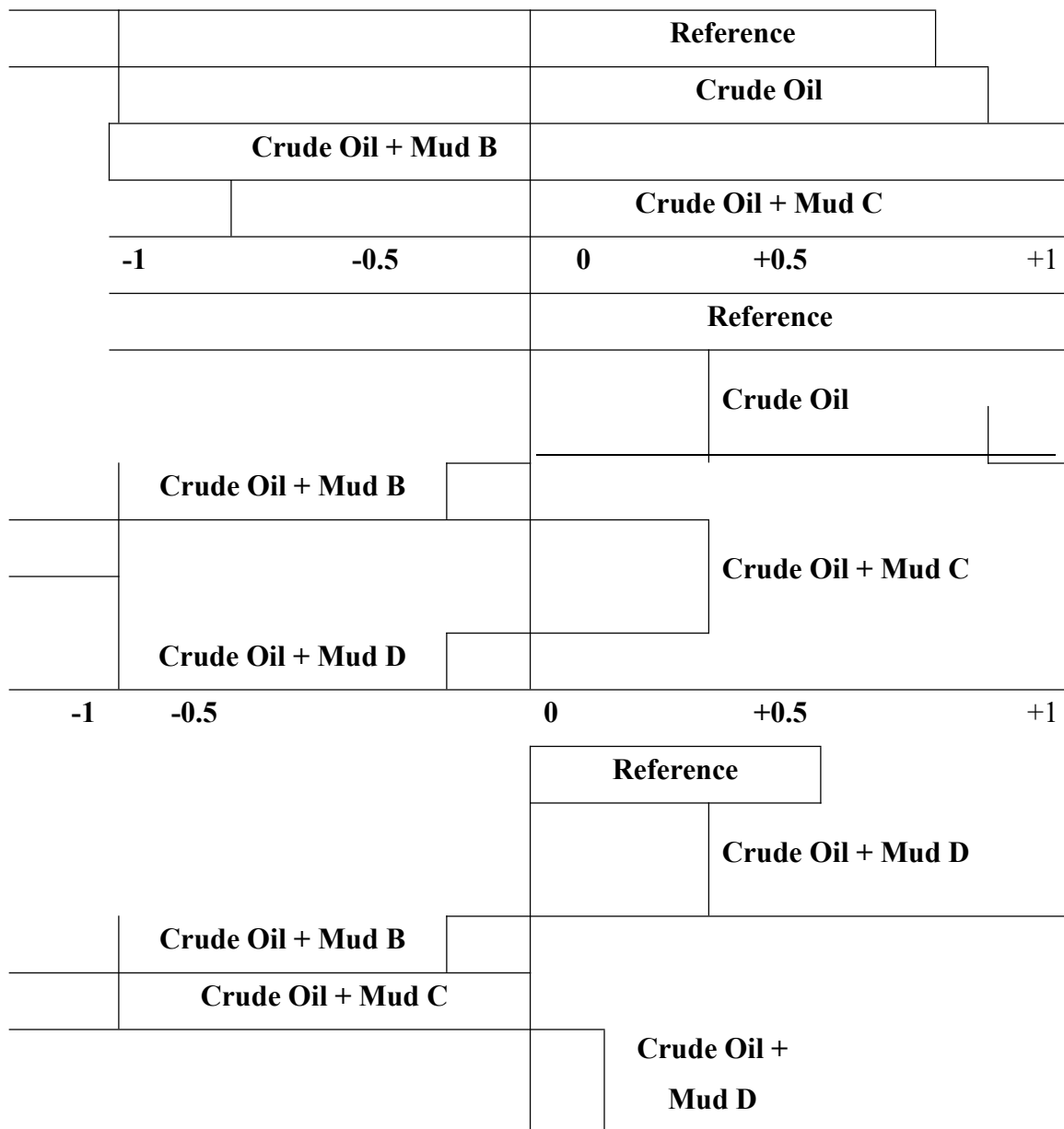
Among the preceding samples, those having undergone the greatest damage were cleaned according to the procedure described in the experimental section. The following values were obtained for the ability indices after cleaning: Sandstone,  $I_w = + 0.97$  shale sandstone  $I_w = +0.72$  and 1; and carbonate,  $I_w = +0.63$  and +1 The strong original water witness of the 3 porous media was thus restored, with cleaning being able to eliminated the consequence of the contact with crude oil and with the 3 drilling mud satisfactorily. It can thus be supposed that cleaning of reservoir samples having neutral wet ability and taken with an oil-based fluid should be possible Tests must however be performed because each case is an individual one.

### **3.9 WATER BASED DRILLING FLUIDS**

Just as was done in the case of oil base drilling fluids, samples from the three porous media previously saturated with brine and refined oil were placed in contact with one of the five water based mud.

But because the samples were originally strongly hydrophilic it can be conferred that spontaneous displacement of oil by waster must have occurred during the contamination Treatment by the drilling mud. Considering the conditions of the treatment, it was not possible to evaluate the volume of oil thus displaced.

Therefore, we performed a brine flood at the end of the treatment to establish a resident oil saturation. Starting with spontaneous and forced displacement of water by oil we now performed the wettability test. The result of the wettability text performed is as shows below.



**FIG 3.5: WETTABILITY EVALUATION ORIGINALLY AFTER CONTAMINATION WITH VARIOU WATER BASED DRILLING FLUIDS**

## CHAPTER 4

### NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF MUD CONTROL

Proper control of mud properties could help avoid or overcome some drilling hazards.

Some of these drilling problems include

1. Blowouts
2. Lost circulation
3. Heaving shale problems
4. Salt section hole enlargement

#### 4.1 BLOWOUTS

When encountered formation pressures exceed the mud column pressure a blowout occurs. Which allows the formation fluids to blowout of the hole "The happens be the most dreaded and most expensive hazard of drilling. This problem can be avoided through the use of proper mud density, however borehole pressure reductions below mud column pressures are in many instances caused by too rapid withdraw of the drill string. This process is referred to as swabbing and has now become recognized as a large factor promoting blowouts. This holds for areas where a very delicate, overbalance of formation pressure is necessary the magnitude of the pulling section depends on speed of pipe withdraw, hole pipe clearance and mud viscosity and gel strength.

#### 4.2 LOST CIRCULATION

Lost circulation is defined as the loss of substantial quantities of whole mud to an encountered formation. This is evidence by the complete or partial loss of rations. The annular mud level may drop and stabilize, at a pressure in equilibrium with formation pressure. Lost circulation occurs when formation permeability is sufficiently great to accept whole mud, the wines are do large to be plugged by the solid (Clay, cutting etc) in the mud. A further obvious requirement is that the mud column pressure must exceed the formation pressure some of the endurable effects of lost circulation include.

1. The drop in annular mud levels may causes a blowout
2. No cutting is obtained hence no information is obtained on the formation being drilled.
3. Mud cost prohibit continuance of drilling without returns.
4. The possibility of sticking the drills pipe with a resulting fishing job is increased.

5. If the lost circulation zone is a potential pay zone considerable productivity impairment may result.

The type of formations to which circulation may be lost includes.

- a. Coarsely permeable rocks, such as gravel reef, and irregular Limestone
- b. Faulted jointed and fissured formations such as those with naturally occurring fractures those in which the fractures are include or caused by much column pressures.
- c. Cavernous and open fissured formations.

### **4.3 HAVING SHALE PROBLEMS**

Some areas are characterized by shale - sections containing bentonite or other hydrated clays that continually adsorb water, swell and slough into the hole. Such beds are referred to as having shale and constitute a severe drilling hazard when encountered. Pipe sticking excessive solid building in the mud, and hole bridging are typical resultant problems. Various treatments are sometimes useful and successful such as

1. Changing mud system to inhibitive type such as Lime, gyp etc which reduces tendency of the mud to hydrate water sensitive clays.
2. Increasing circulation rate for more rapid removal of particulates
3. Increasing mud density for greater wall protection.
4. Decreasing water loss of mud.
5. Changing to oil emulsion mud.
6. Changing to oil base mud.

Depending on the severity of the occurrence, any of the above may be satisfactory with the least result being changing to oil base or water-in-oil emulsion mud.

### **4.4 SALT SECTION HOLE ENLARGEMENT**

Considerable thickness of rock salt must be penetrated in many areas. Solution and erosion of these beds can cause excessive hole enlargement which in turn may be source of future trouble and expense.

1. In case of drilling string failure, the enlarged hole makes fishing operations exceedingly difficult.
2. Larger mud volumes are requested to fill the system hence treating cost are higher.

3. Large cement volumes are required for dazing operations if fill-up through the section is to be attained.

The principal means of avoiding these problems is to prepare a salt saturated mud system prior to drilling the salt, thus avoiding the dissolving effect.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the analysis, it was observed that oil-based drilling fluid greatly changed the wettability of sandstone, shale sandstone and a carbonate with all the three originally strongly hydrophilic.

The original wettability of porous media thus contaminated can be restored by cleaning involving circulations of isopropanol toluene and methanol. The original permeability however is not found.

When porous media are first 'equilibrated with a crude oil that gives neutral wettability, contamination caused by oil-based drilling fluids is greatly reduced.

The water-based drilling fluids investigated, it showed no change in the strong water wetness of the three porous media considered.

The success of the experiment is dependent on the care of the core samples taken. Though this was observed with all based fluid. Our findings show that it should be possible to restore the original surface by cleaning with a succession of solvent.

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## APPENDIX

Description of the Wettability Test.

The wettability test used is comparable to Amott's test, force displacement replaces centrifuging. The forced displacements are performed at a constant rate or pressure while making certain that the expression  $Lq$  (where  $L$  = samples length,  $n$  = Viscosity of the displacing fluid and  $q$  = rate of filtration) has a sufficient value to 1 minimize the end effects. Likewise, we have operated with imbibition's times suited for each case. Indeed, in some cases, it has been found that the imbibition's phenomenon does not begin immediately and also that the kinetics is sometimes slow, in particular when the samples have low permeability.

Wettability is expressed by a wettability index defined as follows:

$$I_w = \left( \frac{\partial_{ol}}{\partial_{old}} \right) - \left( \frac{\partial_{wl}}{\partial_{wld}} \right)$$

This index can have values ranging from -1 from a strongly oleophilic rock to + 1 for a strongly hydrophilic rock. We have chosen -0.3, -0.1, +0.1 and +0.3 as cut off values to separate various wettability cases.