# Horizontal Well Planning Within the Woodford and Other Gas Shales Within the Mid-Continent, USA



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#### Hz Well Planning within Gas Shales–– Key Topics

Lateral placement, based on mineralogy

Drilling direction, based on local stresses

Staying in the zone, based on LWD/MWD

Completion plan, based on borehole images or sonics

**Production** 

**Stimulation** 

**Design** 

**Execut** 

Completion

Production Log – did it work?

GAS

# This is what we're seeing on production logs….

#### Woodford Shale Hz PL example



#### Flow Scanner\* observations:

- $\triangleright$  contribution to gas production varies between perforation clusters
- $>$  75% of water production is from 4 toe perforations (stage one)<br> $>$  20% of see productions is from 4 toe perforations (stage ane)
- ► 20% of gas productions is from 4 toe perforations (stage one) Solution:

Wouldn't it be nice to havegeologic information toexplain these results?

≻ operator plugged the four toe perforations and eliminated 80-85% of water production (1000 bwpd) with a minimal drap in assession minimal drop in gas production



## Intro to Horizontal Well Planning in Gas Shales

The key to success in horizontal well projects within gas shales is to set up, plan and execute an effective completion design

#### Step 1: Lateral placement – pilot hole evaluation

- $\triangleright$   $\;$  Geochemical log (ECS) to quantify mineralogy and play potential ⋗
- ⋗ Borehole images for structural dip, fracture, fault and stress analysis

#### Step 2: Drilling direction depends on local stress regime

- Borehole images or advanced sonic tools for stress orientations⋗
	- $\triangleright$   $\blacksquare$   $\blacks$
	- $\triangleright$  Fast shear azimuth is parallel to present day maximum horizontal stress direction

#### Step 3: Completion planning – Hz well evaluation

⋗

⋗

⋗

⋗

- $\triangleright$  Borehole images or advanced sonic tools for rock stiffness
	- ⋗ Resistive vs. conductive mineralogy on borehole images
	- Rock mechanical properties for fracture closure stress
- $\triangleright$  Borehole images for structural dip, fracture, fault and stress analysis ⋗
	- ⋗ Dip changes may indicate folding or faulting (higher stresses)
	- ⋗ Natural fractures enhanced system perm, may be related to faulting, can be good or bad
	- ⋗ Drilling fractures help us predict hydraulic fracture initiation and geometry



## Shale Minerals

#### Gas Shales

 Quartz Rich Frequent CarbonatesIllite Dominant ClayChlorite Common Periodic Swelling ClaysPyrite CommonVariable Kerogen



## Reservoir Evaluation for Lateral Placement



#### Geochemically (ECS)-enhanced formation evaluation

- Quantitative mineralogy
	- High silica, low clay = better reservoirs andhigher modulus
	- Swelling clays = big problems

# Borehole images → FMI/OBMI/UBI<br>● Natural fractures

- Natural fractures
- Drilling-induced fractures
- Faults
- Bed orientation





Siliceous zones



#### Pilot Hole Example – Lateral Placement 200 T**Optimized**  ATarget250 R G ET $300<sub>°</sub>$

**Platform Express** 

 $350$ 

ECS SpectroLith & ELANPlus FMI image & interp Porosity, TOC, Perm & GIP

# Pilot Hole Example – Orienting the well

#### Drilling-Induced Fractures

- ENE-WSW
- Maximum horizontal stress



### Natural Fractures

ENE-WSW

Important for natural completions



#### 3D View of Horizontal Well WellEye

Bedding has high apparent dip and fractures have low apparent dip

Bedded Pyrite (conductive)

Resistive Bed

N

Open fractures (both induced and natural)

S

GAS



## Stress Information in Horizontal Wellbores → Induced Fractures:<br>Variable Characteristics = Variable Treatments Variable Characteristics = Variable Treatments



Transverse & Longitudinal

Overall low stress $\boldsymbol{\mathcal{R}}$ isotropic stresses

Low maximum stress,high minimum stress(higher isotropic stress)

Longitudinal only



Transverse only None

Low minimum stress,Max >> Min stress(stress anisotropy)



Overall high stress



## Stress Information in Horizontal Wellbores → Induced Fractures:<br>Variable Characteristics = Variable Treatments Variable Characteristics = Variable Treatments



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## Horizontal Woodford Example



## Impact of Mineralogy on Mechanical Properties and Stress



Anisotropic shale properties increases stress in argillaceous intervals

Large stress contrast between beds

#### Assume:



Argillaceous Shale: Isotropic:  $\sigma_h = 5,288 \text{ psi} = 0.705 \text{ psi/ft}$ Anisotropic:  $\sigma_b = 6.573$  psi = 0.876 psi/ft Cherty Shale: Isotropic:  $\sigma_h = 4.568 \text{ psi} = 0.609 \text{ psi/ft}$ Anisotropic:  $\sigma_{\text{H}} = 4,605 \text{ psi} = 0.614 \text{ psi/ft}$ 





## Natural Fractures:

## Variable Characteristics = Variable Treatments

fel.

#### **COMPIENON CONSIGERATIONS.**<br>Else natural fracture spacing decrease -Completion considerations:

as natural fracture spacing decreases, perf spacing can increase

isolate intervals with significant differences in natural fracture spacing



## Horizontal Image Interpretation Examples



## Horizontal Woodford Example



# Horizontal Image Interpretation Examples

Sub-seismic faults

# Potential Issues: $\triangleright$  wasted frac energy and inefficient reservoir stimulation  $\triangleright$  can guide hydraulic fractures to water-bearing zones GAS

# Wrap Up: Completion Planning/Prediction SummaryVariable Characteristics = Variable Treatments



# **Conclusions**

Geochemically-enhanced formation evaluation, advanced sonic<br>measurements and/or berabele image analysis entimize berizon measurements and/or borehole image analysis optimize horizontal well placement

Borehole image and/or advanced sonic analyses define local stress<br>regime and determine the optimal herizontal well azimuth regime and determine the optimal horizontal well azimuth

 $\checkmark$  Borehole image analysis can optimize the completion design



# Thank You!

