

CSUR's 2019 Parent-Child Interaction Workshop – Nov 19th, 2019

Although the title of the event could potentially imply addressing relational & psychological issues in a familial setting, this CSUR workshop dealt with equally complex issues arising from inter-wellbore communication as a result of completion / hydraulic fracturing operations. Many inferences were made in jest to the former idea throughout the day. However, as with family issues, the topic of inter-well communication is not a new problem nor is it confined to the unconventional resource sector. Consequently, the importance and the subsequent urgency to resolve this problem for the unconventional sector has become much more prevalent in recent years due to infill drilling and tighter well spacing / stacking.

The effects of parent-child well interaction could be viewed from a variety of different angles, including: impact on reserves on a per well basis, parent & child well production impairment and the overall economics of the development project. Attendees at the workshop had the opportunity to listen to experts from numerous organizations on how they're addressing the problem, especially in the current capital-constrained environment. Academics, service company representatives, reserve analysts and operators showcased their specific tools and processes being used to mitigate or at least predict / minimize the effects of wellbore communication & frac hits.

As the industry continues to strive to maximize / optimize recovery from unconventional reservoirs, placement of child wells has become a science of its own, with the primary concern of either under or over-capitalization. Whether it be a multi-disciplinary approach, data analytics, geomechanics or operational methodologies, the conclusion from various presenters was consistent in that each case / development was complicated, unique and required a custom solution. However, the tools and workflows presented throughout the day could be extended to all situations.

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