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of Engineers**

Hydrologic Engineering Center

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# **A Finite Difference Method for Analyzing Liquid Flow in Variably Saturated Porous Media**

**April 1970**

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| <b>14. ABSTRACT</b><br>Finite difference equations were derived by converting the original non-linear partial differential equation to an integral equation using the divergence theorem and integrating around individual mesh volumes. Application of the technique to the problem of axi-symmetric flow to a water well partially or completely penetrating an elastic unconfined aquifer demonstrates the use of the technique. Three methods were used to solve the matrix equations resulting from the scheme: a form of the direct alternating direction implicit method (ADIP), the iterative alternating direction implicit method (ADIPIT), and line successive over-relaxation (SLOR). The fastest method for the problems investigated so far was SLOR. The number of iterations required for SLOR and ADIPIT were similar, but ADIPIT requires two mesh sweeps per iteration. Excessively small time steps were required for convergence of ADIP. Original non-linearity of the differential equation was preserved by keeping saturations and relative permeabilities current with hydraulic heads in the iteration sequence, the averaging them over time. The mesh integration method appears to be well suited for application to regions having internal boundaries between sub-regions of different rock properties because it directly utilizes the boundary conditions acting at the interfaces. |                         |  |   |  |  |
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# **A Finite Difference Method for Analyzing Liquid Flow in Variably Saturated Porous Media**

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US Army Corps of Engineers  
Institute for Water Resources  
Hydrologic Engineering Center  
609 Second Street  
Davis, CA 95616

(530) 756-1104  
(530) 756-8250 FAX  
[www.hec.usace.army.mil](http://www.hec.usace.army.mil)

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## INTRODUCTION

In recent years a number of workers have stressed the necessity of a unified approach to the study of subsurface water flow above and below the water table because from a fluid dynamic point of view the water table is an artificial boundary (Stallman, 1961, p. 40, Childs, 1960, p. 781, Freeze, 1969, p. 153, Klute, 1969, pp. 61-62). In connection with this general concept, it is of particular importance to include phenomena taking place in the unsaturated region when analyzing unconfined ground water flow problems (Taylor and Luthin, 1969, p. 144, Rubin, 1968, p. 607, Cooley and Donohue, 1969, p. 2). As has been pointed out in the above mentioned references, solutions to unconfined flow problems have often been unrealistic because, among other simplifications, the water table was treated as a fluid discontinuity across which only a known quantity of fluid could move (e.g., when using the Dupuit-Forchheimer assumptions or the concept of a classical bounding surface (Lamb, 1945, pp. 6-8)). However, the water table is generally not a discontinuity, and replenishment to the saturated region from the unsaturated zone (and vice versa) is usually a consequence of water movement in the unsaturated zone, even for steady-state flow (see for instance Taylor and Luthin, 1961, p. 151, figure 4). In order to study subsurface water flow under variably saturated conditions and verify the use of the theory under field conditions, satisfactory methods of solving the nonlinear partial differential equations governing flow for general problems must be developed.

Flow of water in unsaturated regions is generally treated as a special case of multiphase fluid flow whereby the movement of one phase, air, is neglected. Unsteady-state, multiphase fluid flow has been investigated by a number of workers in the petroleum industry (see for example, Douglas, Peaceman, and Rachford, 1959, Welge and Weber, 1964, Fagin and Stewart, 1966, Coats, Nielsen, Terhune, and Weber, 1967, Breitenbach, Thurnau, and van Poolen, 1968a, Breitenbach, Thurnau, and van Poolen, 1968b, and Breitenbach, Thurnau, and van Poolen, 1968c). The solution methods developed for these multiphase flow problems provide valuable background for development of solutions to problems of water flow in variably saturated porous media.

One problem in the general class discussed above is flow to a well being pumped in an unconfined flow system. Taylor and Luthin (1969) have outlined a finite difference procedure that involves explicit extrapolation of the water table position and water content distribution in the unsaturated region and implicit solution for head distribution in the saturated region for each time step. They have applied the method to a well that fully penetrates a single incompressible aquifer. The objectives of the study reported herein are (1) to develop an implicit finite difference solution to the problem of axi-symmetric flow to a water well that partially or completely penetrates one or more horizontal elastic rock units, the upper one of which is unconfined, and (2) to design the method to be potentially applicable to other problems of liquid flow in variably saturated porous media. This report is an extension of previous work by Cooley and Donohue (1969).

## MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION OF PROBLEM

All symbols used are defined in the "Notation" section of the appendix. The indices are defined separately at the end of that section.

For the purposes of the present study, the variably saturated porous medium is assumed to deform elastically in response to fluid pressure changes similarly to the manner of completely saturated elastic porous material. Thus, application of the following development is restricted to cases involving water saturation greater than residual water saturation. When water saturation equals residual water saturation, water is assumed to be immobile. Using the concept of coordinates deforming because of elastic compression or expansion of the porous medium (Cooper, 1966), the continuity equation is

$$-\iiint_{V(t)} \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) dV = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iiint_{V(t)} S_w \rho n dV. \quad (1)$$

In the volume element  $V(t) = \Delta x \Delta y \Delta z$ ,  $\Delta z$  is taken as the deforming coordinate. Equation 1 can be expanded and rearranged (see appendix) to yield

$$\iiint_{V(t)} \left[ \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) + \rho n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w \left( n \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \rho n \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right) \right] dV = 0. \quad (2)$$

Because this equation must hold for any arbitrary volume,

$$-\nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = \rho n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w \left( n \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \rho n \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right). \quad (3)$$

The term in parentheses in equation 3 can be approximated for small changes in fluid density,  $\rho$ , as  $\rho S_s \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}$  (see appendix or Cooper, 1966, pp. 4788-4789) where

$$S_s = n \rho g (c + c_n). \quad (4)$$

Change in fluid density with pressure is very small. Cooper (1966, p. 4789) has stated that the term resulting from assuming  $\rho$  variable in  $\nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v})$  is usually negligible. Using the relationship for  $S_g$  and  $\nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) \approx \rho \nabla \cdot \vec{v}$ , equation 3 becomes

$$-\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w S_s \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}. \quad (5)$$

One form of Darcy's law for water partially or completely saturating a porous medium is

$$\vec{v} = - KK_r \nabla H. \quad (6)$$

Combining equations 5 and 6 there results

$$\nabla \cdot (KK_r \nabla H) = n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w S_s \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}. \quad (7)$$

The first term on the right side of equation 7 can be modified using the definition of air saturation ( $S_a = 1 - S_w$ ) and capillary pressure ( $P_c = P_a - P$ ), and the assumption that they are related uniquely for either imbibition or drainage (Douglas, Peaceman, Rachford, 1959, p. 298):

$$n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} = n \frac{dS_w}{dP_c} \frac{\partial P_c}{\partial t} = -n \frac{dS_a}{dP_c} \left( \frac{\partial P_a}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} \right). \quad (8)$$

If it is assumed that the change in air pressure,  $P_a$ , will be much smaller than the change in water pressure,  $P$ , with time

$$-n \frac{dS_a}{dP_c} \frac{\partial P_c}{\partial t} \approx -n \frac{dS_a}{dP} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} \approx -n \rho g \frac{dS_a}{dP} \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}. \quad (9)$$

Equation 7 may therefore be written

$$\nabla \cdot (KK_r \nabla H) = (S_w S_s - n \rho g \frac{dS_a}{dP}) \frac{\partial H}{\partial t}. \quad (10)$$



In the present study hydraulic properties are considered to be constant in any one rock unit,  $ir$ , but to vary between units. The equation for each unit written in the cylindrical coordinate system with axial symmetry is

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{\partial}{\partial R} \left( K_r R \frac{\partial H}{\partial R} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial Z} \left( K_r \frac{\partial H}{\partial Z} \right) = \left( \frac{S_w (S_s)_{ir}}{K_{ir}} - \frac{n_{ir} \rho g}{K_{ir}} \frac{dS_a}{dP} \right) \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \quad (11)$$

In order for one solution to apply to a number of different problems, equation 11 should be rewritten in dimensionless form (Smith, 1965, p. 9). For the dimensionless variables defined in the appendix, equation 11 becomes

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( K_r r \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} \right) = \left( S_w (S_r)_{ir} - \frac{dS_a^D}{dp_h} \right) \frac{(S_y)_{ir}^D}{K_{ir}^D} \frac{\partial h}{\partial t^D} \quad (12)$$

Boundary conditions used for the problem, illustrated in figure 1, are similar to those used by Taylor and Luthin (1969) and Rubin (1968) for similar problems. Using dimensionless variables, at the well bore,  $r_w$ ,

$$\left. \begin{array}{lll} \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} = 0 & 0 \leq z \leq z_B & t^D \geq 0 \\ h = h_w & z_B \leq z \leq h_w & t^D \geq 0 \\ h = z & h_w \leq z \leq z_s & t^D \geq 0 \\ \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} = 0 & z_s \leq z \leq b_T & t^D \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \quad (13)$$

The hydraulic head in the well bore,  $h_w$ , is to be interpreted as the value necessary to yield a prescribed constant discharge,  $Q$ . On the top and bottom boundaries (i.e., at  $z = b_T$  and  $z = 0$ , respectively)

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial z} = 0 \quad r_w \leq r \leq r_e \quad t^D \geq 0 \quad (14)$$

At the lateral external boundary,  $r_e$ ,

$$h = h_e \quad 0 \leq z \leq b_T \quad t^D \geq 0 \quad (15)$$

The boundary conditions at the horizontal interfaces between rock units are

$$(KK_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial z})_{ir} = (KK_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial z})_{ir+1} \quad (16)$$

and

$$(\frac{\partial h}{\partial r})_{ir} = (\frac{\partial h}{\partial r})_{ir+1} \quad (17)$$

The initial condition

$$h = h_e \quad r_w \leq r \leq r_e \quad 0 \leq z \leq b_T \quad t^D = 0 \quad (18)$$

completes the basic formulation of the problem.

In addition to the basic differential equation and its boundary and initial conditions, relationships between water pressure, relative permeability, and saturation must be stated. **The following functions are used in this study because of their usefulness for expressing a wide variety of conditions:**

$$S_a^D = \frac{(-p_h)^c}{(-p_h)^{c+A}}, \quad p_h \leq 0 \quad (19)$$

and

$$K_r = \left[ \frac{S_{ar} - S_a}{S_{ar}} \right]^d = (1 - S_a^D)^d, \quad S_a \leq S_{ar} \quad (20)$$

Equation 20 is a generalization of an equation given by Corey (1954, p. 39).

## FINITE DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS

Finite difference equations were derived using the mesh integration method of Varga (Varga, 1962, pp. 182-186, 190-191, Spanier, 1967, pp. 219-222) generalized to retain, in an approximate manner, the nonlinear aspects of equation 12. To use the method the entire region being analyzed is divided into a rectangular mesh, each internal node point of which is enclosed by a mesh volume (figure 2). Boundaries of the volume element extend to half the distance between the central and all adjacent node points for all interior nodes. Because the mesh is arranged so that node points lie on rock-property region and external boundaries, a region boundary divides mesh volumes lying along it in half, and only one half of a mesh volume exists on external boundaries (figure 2).

Neglecting the small change in volume of mesh volume element  $V_\ell$  due to elastic deformation, equation 12 can be restated in integral form for a volume element internal to a rock property region or external boundary using the divergence theorem:

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_{ir}^D \iiint_{V_\ell} \left[ \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( K_r r \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left( K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} \right) \right] dV &= K_{ir}^D \iint_{S_\ell} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial N} dS \\
 = (S_y)_{ir}^D \iiint_{V_\ell} \left[ S_w (S_r)_{ir} - \frac{dS_a^D}{dp_h} \right] \frac{\partial h}{\partial t^D} dV & \quad (21)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $N$  is the direction normal to surface  $S_\ell$  enclosing volume element  $V_\ell$ . For a volume element lying on a rock property region boundary,

$$K_{ir}^D \iint_{(S_\ell)_{ir}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial N} dS + K_{ir+1}^D \iint_{(S_\ell)_{ir+1}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial N} dS$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (S_y)_{ir}^D \iiint_{(V_\ell)_{ir}} \left[ S_w(S_r)_{ir} - \frac{dS_a^D}{dp_h} \right] \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}^D dv \\
&+ (S_y)_{ir+1}^D \iiint_{(V_\ell)_{ir+1}} \left[ S_w(S_r)_{ir+1} - \frac{dS_a^D}{dp_h} \right] \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}^D dv
\end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

The symbol  $(S_\ell)_{ir}$  refers to the half of the surface lying in region  $ir$ , and the other symbols involving  $S_\ell$  and  $V_\ell$  are to be interpreted similarly. It should be noted that the portions of the surface integrals expressing discharge across the boundary are of equal value but opposite sign, thus cancelling one another.

Equation 21 can be rewritten in the  $(r, z)$  coordinate system yielding

$$\begin{aligned}
&2\pi r_{i+1/2} K_{ir}^D \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} dz - 2\pi r_{i-1/2} K_{ir}^D \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} dz \\
&+ 2\pi K_{ir}^D \int_{r_{i-1/2}}^{r_{i+1/2}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} r dr \Big|_{z=z_{j+1/2}} - 2\pi K_{ir}^D \int_{r_{i-1/2}}^{r_{i+1/2}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial z} r dr \Big|_{z=z_{j-1/2}} \\
&= 2\pi (S_y)_{ir}^D \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} \int_{r_{i-1/2}}^{r_{i+1/2}} \left[ S_w(S_r)_{ir} - \frac{dS_a^D}{dp_h} \right] \frac{\partial h}{\partial t}^D r dr dz
\end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Equation 22 gives a similar equation except the right side and the first and second terms on the left side of equation 23 are each split into two integrals, one for each region, with limits to the integrals in the  $z$  direction extending from  $z_j$  to  $z_{j+1/2}$  and from  $z_{j-1/2}$  to  $z_j$ .

Each of the integrals on the left side of equation 23 is now approximated by terms of the form

$$2\pi r_{i+1/2} K_{ir}^D \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} dz \approx 2\pi r_{i+1/2} K_{ir}^D (K_r)_{i+1/2,j} \left( \frac{h_{i+1,j} - h_{i,j}}{r_{i+1} - r_i} \right) \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} dz$$

$$= (K_{rx}^A)_{i+1/2,j} (h_{i+1,j} - h_{i,j}) \quad (24)$$

The right side of equation 23 takes the form

$$2\pi (S_y)_{ir}^D \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} \int_{r_{i-1/2}}^{r_{i+1/2}} \left[ (S_w)_{ir} - \frac{dS_a^D}{dp_h} \right] \frac{\partial h}{\partial t^D} r dr dz$$

$$\approx 2\pi (S_y)_{ir}^D \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} - \left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} \right] \frac{h_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(n)}}{\Delta t^D} \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} \int_{r_{i-1/2}}^{r_{i+1/2}} r dr dz$$

$$= \frac{(V_b)_{i,j}}{\Delta t^D} \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} - \left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} \right] (h_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(n)}) \quad (25)$$

where

$$\left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} = \frac{(S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - (S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n)}}{(p_h)_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - (p_h)_{i,j}^{(n)}}$$

and

$$(S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1)} + (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n)} \right]$$

Equation 24 and the other similar terms must be placed somewhere in the time interval  $n, n+1$ . Because the actual placement depends on the method used to solve the finite difference equations, discussion will be deferred until the solution methods are explained.

It is important to note that, because node points are placed on internal boundaries, dual values of  $K_r$  and  $S_a^D$  will exist at these points. One value is calculated using equations 19 and 20 with constants  $A, c,$  and  $d$  characteristic of one region, and one value is calculated using constants characteristic of the other region. Each value of  $K_r$  and  $S_a^D$  is used with its appropriate integral term.

On all external boundaries the finite difference equations must be modified to incorporate the boundary conditions. Where the head,  $h$ , is known on the boundary, this is accomplished by using the known head in its appropriate place in equations written for node points just interior to the boundary. Equations are not written for boundary points. For the no flow boundaries the node point on the boundary is unknown, and a reflection condition is imposed using an imaginary line of points just outside the boundary. For example, at the well bore,

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial r} \approx \frac{h_{2,j} - h_{0,j}}{r_2 - r_0} = 0, \quad (26)$$

where  $i = 1$  at the well bore, and equation 24 would become

$$2\pi r_{1i} K_{ir}^D \int_{z_{j-1/2}}^{z_{j+1/2}} K_r \frac{\partial h}{\partial r} dz \approx (K_r A_x)_{1,j} (h_{2,j} - h_{0,j}) = 0 \quad (27)$$

Therefore, the reflection condition is imposed simply by eliminating the term for discharge across the boundary from each boundary point equation where the no flow condition exists.

#### SOLUTION METHODS

Three methods were selected to solve the matrix equations resulting from the finite difference scheme: a form of the direct alternating direction implicit method (ADIP), the iterative alternating direction implicit method (ADIPIIT), and line successive over-relaxation (SLOR). The first two methods have only been applied to problems involving wells that fully penetrate a single, elastic, unconfined aquifer; whereas, the third has been applied to more general problems.

The ADIP applied to time level  $(n+1/2)$  involves replacing difference approximations for flow in one direction (for instance, the  $r$  direction) by an implicit approximation (Smith, 1965, pp. 17-18) and replacing the derivatives for flow in the other direction (i.e., the  $z$  direction) by an explicit formulation (Smith, 1965, p. 11). At the time level  $(n+1)$  the derivatives approximated by the implicit and explicit methods are reversed. This two-step procedure is then repeated to advance to time step  $(n+2)$ , etc., through all time steps. For an implicit solution in the  $r$  direction the finite difference equation for nodes interior to a boundary are

$$\begin{aligned} & (K_{r x} A)_{i+1/2, j}^{(n+1/2)} (h_{i+1, j} - h_{i, j})^{(n+1/2)} - (K_{r x} A)_{i-1/2, j}^{(n+1/2)} (h_{i, j} - h_{i-1, j})^{(n+1/2)} \\ & + (K_{r x} A)_{i, j+1/2}^{(n)} (h_{i, j+1} - h_{i, j})^{(n)} - (K_{r z} A)_{i, j-1/2}^{(n)} (h_{i, j} - h_{i, j-1})^{(n)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{(V_b)_{i,j}}{\Delta t^D/2} \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} - \left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(n+1/4)} \right] (h_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} - h_{i,j}^{(n)}) \quad (28)$$

and, for implicit solution in the z direction,

$$\begin{aligned} & (K_{r_x}^A)_{i+1/2,j}^{(n+1/2)} (h_{i+1,j} - h_{i,j})^{(n+1/2)} - (K_{r_x}^A)_{i-1/2,j}^{(n+1/2)} (h_{i,j} - h_{i-1,j})^{(n+1/2)} \\ & + (K_{r_z}^A)_{i,j+1/2}^{(n+1)} (h_{i,j+1} - h_{i,j})^{(n+1)} - (K_{r_z}^A)_{i,j-1/2}^{(n+1)} (h_{i,j} - h_{i,j-1})^{(n+1)} \\ & = \frac{(V_b)_{i,j}}{\Delta t^D/2} \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} - \left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(n+3/4)} \right] (h_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)}) \quad (29) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(n+1/4)} = \frac{(S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} - (S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n)}}{(p_h)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} - (p_h)_{i,j}^{(n)}}$$

and the corresponding term in equation 29 is defined in a similar manner.

Equations for node points on no flow boundaries have one complete term deleted as indicated by equation 27.

If each of the four terms on the left sides of equations 28 and 29 are replaced with Q's for simplicity and then the equations are added, there results

$$\begin{aligned} & (Q_{i+1/2,j}^{(n+1/2)} - Q_{i-1/2,j}^{(n+1/2)}) + \frac{1}{2} \left[ (Q_{i,j+1/2}^{(n)} + Q_{i,j+1/2}^{(n+1)}) - (Q_{i,j-1/2}^{(n)} + Q_{i,j-1/2}^{(n+1)}) \right] \\ & = \frac{(V_b)_{i,j}}{\Delta t^D} \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} (h_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(n)}) - (S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n+1)} + (S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n)} \right] \quad (30) \end{aligned}$$



This equation, which is approximately centered in the time interval  $n, n+1$ , is analogous (except for the dependence of  $S_a^D$  and  $K_r$  on values of  $p_h$ ) to the unsteady-state heat flow equation solved by ADIP given by Spanier (1967, p. 235, equation 58).

The method as defined by equations 28 and 29 cannot be applied directly because  $S_a^D$  and  $K_r$  are not known initially. A successive approximation or iteration technique was used in order to make  $S_a^D$  and  $K_r$  at each node agree with the value of  $p_h$  at the node. Values obtained at the last time level (for instance  $n$ ) were used initially, the appropriate equation (for instance, equation 28) was solved, then  $S_a^D$  was recalculated from the new head. The new  $S_a^D$  for use with the next approximation was obtained from

$$(S_a^D)^{(k)}_{i,j} = (S_a^D)^{(k-1)}_{i,j} + \omega_s \left[ (\hat{S}_a^D)^{(k)}_{i,j} - (S_a^D)^{(k-1)}_{i,j} \right], \quad 0 \leq \omega_s \leq 1 \quad (31)$$

where  $(S_a^D)^{(k-1)}_{i,j}$  is the value computed from the  $(k-1)$ th approximation,  $(\hat{S}_a^D)^{(k)}_{i,j}$  is the value computed from the  $k$ th approximation (i.e., the value just computed from pressure head  $(p_h)_{i,j}$ ), and  $(S_a^D)^{(k)}_{i,j}$  is the interpolated value to be used for the next approximation. This procedure was necessary because, if  $(\hat{S}_a^D)^{(k)}_{i,j}$  was used directly in the next iteration, the method frequently diverged. The value of  $(K_r^{(k)})_{i,j}$  was calculated from  $(S_a^D)^{(k)}_{i,j}$ . Iterations were stopped when

$$|h_{i,j}^{(k+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(k)}| \leq 10^{-6},$$

and convergence was always obtained within 5 to 10 iterations.

After convergence, if the discharge yielded by  $h_w$  was correct, advancement was made to the next time level (for instance,  $(n+1/2)$ ), and the iterative method was applied to the appropriate equation (equation 29 for the examples used above). The procedure for finding  $h_w$  to yield the correct discharge is discussed further on.

The ADIPIT is similar to ADIP except directions for implicit and explicit solutions are alternated during iterations at time step  $(n+1)$ . Equations for the method at an internal node point are

$$\begin{aligned}
& (K_{r x} A)_{i+1/2, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i+1, j} - h_{i, j})^{(k+1/2, n+1)} - (K_{r x} A)_{i+1/2, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i, j} - h_{i-1, j})^{(k+1/2, n+1)} \\
& + (K_{r z} A)_{i, j+1}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i, j+1} - h_{i, j})^{(k, n+1)} - (K_{r z} A)_{i, j-1}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i, j} - h_{i, j-1})^{(k, n+1)} \\
& = \frac{(V_b)_{i, j}}{\Delta t^D} \left[ (S_w)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} - \left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} \right] (h_{i, j}^{(k+1/2, n+1)} - h_{i, j}^{(n)}) \\
& + \omega_{k+1/2} \left[ \frac{(K_r A)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)}}{(K_r A)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)}} \right] (h_{i, j}^{(k+1/2, n+1)} - h_{i, j}^{(k, n+1)}) \tag{32}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& (K_{r x} A)_{i+1/2, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i+1, j} - h_{i, j})^{(k+1/2, n+1)} - (K_{r x} A)_{i+1/2, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i, j} - h_{i-1, j})^{(k+1/2, n+1)} \\
& + (K_{r z} A)_{i, j+1}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i, j+1} - h_{i, j})^{(k+1, n+1)} - (K_{r z} A)_{i, j-1}^{(k, n+1/2)} (h_{i, j} - h_{i, j-1})^{(k+1, n+1)} \\
& = \frac{(V_b)_{i, j}}{\Delta t^D} \left[ (S_w)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} - \left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} \right] (h_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} - h_{i, j}^{(n)}) \\
& + \omega_{k+1/2} \left[ \frac{(K_r A)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)}}{(K_r A)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)}} \right] (h_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} - h_{i, j}^{(k+1/2, n+1)}) \tag{33}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(K_{r,x}^A)^{(k,n+1/2)}_{i+1/2,j} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ (K_{r,x}^A)^{(k,n+1)}_{i+1/2,j} + (K_{r,x}^A)^{(n)}_{i+1/2,j} \right]$$

etc. for similar terms,

$$\overline{(K_r^A)}_{i,j} = (K_{r,x}^A)_{i+1/2,j} + (K_{r,x}^A)_{i-1/2,j} + (K_{r,z}^A)_{i,j+1/2} + (K_{r,z}^A)_{i,j-1/2}$$

and

$$\left( \frac{\Delta S_a^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i,j}^{(k,n+1/2)} = \frac{(S_a^D)^{(k,n+1)}_{i,j} - (S_a^D)^{(n)}_{i,j}}{(p_h)^{(k,n+1)}_{i,j} - (p_h)^{(n)}_{i,j}}$$

Equations 32 and 33 can be envisioned as relationships for iteration through "pseudo time" at each real time step. The last term of each equation is analogous to the storage change term in equations 28 and 29 with the acceleration parameter,  $\omega_{k+1/2}$ , occupying the position of  $2/\Delta t^D$  and  $\overline{(K_r^A)}_{i,j}^{(k,n+1)}$ , called a normalizing matrix, being used to accelerate convergence (Douglas, Peaceman, and Rachford, 1959, p. 307, and Douglas, 1962, p. 62).

The form of the normalizing matrix used here is that of Welge and Weber (1964, p. 352-353). Convergence of the process at time step (n+1) has been reached when "pseudo steady-state" conditions occur, that is, whenever

$$|h_{i,j}^{(k+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(k)}|^{(n+1)} \leq \epsilon$$

where  $\epsilon$  is some small number (chosen as  $10^{-7}$  in this study).

Speed of convergence depends greatly on the choice of  $\omega_{k+1/2}$ . For the case involving linear difference equations it can be shown that a sequence of parameters, in which each value is changed either at each half iteration (at  $k+1/2, k+1, k+3/2$ , etc) or at the end of each complete iteration, produces the most rapid convergence. Usually the sequence starts with the largest value, then each parameter is used in decreasing order of magnitude until the

minimum is reached. At this point the cycle is restarted using the largest value again, and the process is continued until convergence results. The maximum and minimum values can be shown to be the maximum and minimum eigenvalues of the tridiagonal matrices resulting from the difference approximations for flow in the r or z directions if these tridiagonal matrices commute. Also, if these matrices commute and are nonnegative definite, the optimum number and value of the parameters  $\omega_{\max} \geq \omega_{k+1/2} \geq \omega_{\min}$  can be calculated. An excellent review of the theory and procedures developed can be found in Spanier (1967). For the linear case involving noncommuting positive definite matrices, convergence is assured if enough acceleration parameters applied in monotonically nonincreasing order are used (Pearcy, 1962).

The procedures developed for the linear, commutative case have been used in the past (see for instance Douglas, Peaceman, and Rachford, 1959, Welge and Weber, 1964, and Coats, Nielsen, Terhune, and Weber, 1967) with good results, and this procedure has been adopted here. For equations 32 and 33, the maximum possible eigenvalue of linearized versions of either tridiagonal matrix is about 2.00, and, because convergence was found to be relatively insensitive to the value of the maximum acceleration parameter, it was always set equal to 2.00. No satisfactory theoretical method was found to estimate the minimum acceleration parameter, and the selection of it is discussed under "Comparison of Solution Methods". The number and values of the other parameters were found from a scheme given by Varga (1962, p. 226-229) for generating approximate values for the linear, commutative case:

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 m &= 1.309 \log \left( \frac{\omega_{\max}}{\omega_{\min}} \right) \\
 \omega_p &= \omega_{\min} (2.41)^{2p-1}, \quad 1 \leq p \leq m
 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (34)$$

The term  $m$  is rounded to the nearest integer and is two less than the total number of parameters used,  $\omega_{\max}$  and  $\omega_{\min}$  constituting the remaining two. When used in equations 32 and 33, the parameter was changed at each iteration, i.e., at  $k$ ,  $k+1$ ,  $k+2$ , etc.

Line successive over-relaxation (SLOR) is an iterative solution procedure for which the equations for internal node points of lines oriented in the  $z$  (or  $j$ ) direction can be written

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (K_{r x}^A)^{(k, n+1/2)}_{i+1/2, j} (h_{i+1, j}^{(k, n+1)} - \hat{h}_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)}) - (K_{r x}^A)^{(k+1, n+1/2)}_{i-1/2, j} (\hat{h}_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} - h_{i-1, j}^{(k+1, n+1)}) \\
 & + (K_{r z}^A)^{(k, n+1/2)}_{i, j+1/2} (\hat{h}_{i, j+1}^{(k+1, n+1)} - \hat{h}_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)}) - (K_{r z}^A)^{(k, n+1/2)}_{i, j-1/2} (\hat{h}_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} - \hat{h}_{i, j-1}^{(k+1, n+1)}) \\
 & = \frac{(V_b)_{i, j}}{\Delta t^D} \left[ (S_w)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} (S_r)_{i, j} - \left( \frac{\Delta S^D}{\Delta p_h} \right)_{i, j}^{(k, n+1/2)} \right] (\hat{h}_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} - h_{i, j}^{(n)}) \quad (35)
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$h_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} = \omega (\hat{h}_{i, j}^{(k+1, n+1)} - h_{i, j}^{(k, n+1)}) + h_{i, j}^{(k, n+1)}, \quad 1 \leq \omega \leq 2 \quad (36)$$

The equation for points lying on a region boundary is identical except the terms for flow in the  $r$  direction and the storage change term (the right side of the equation) are composed of two terms, one for each region. For example, for region boundary point  $(i, j)$

$$\begin{aligned}
& (K_{r,x}^A)^{(n+1/2)}_{i+1/2,j} (h_{i+1,j} - h_{i,j})^{(n+1)} \\
&= \left[ (K_{r,x}^A)_{ir} + (K_{r,x}^A)_{ir+1} \right]_{i+1/2,j}^{(n+1/2)} (h_{i+1,j} - h_{i,j})^{(n+1)}
\end{aligned}$$

As can be seen from equations 35 and 36, the procedure is to solve simultaneously for all h's along a line using the most recent h's calculated on adjacent lines as knowns. After all h's on a line are calculated, they are over-relaxed or extrapolated using  $\omega$ . The coefficients of the h's for the line are updated using the extrapolated h's so that they are also the most recent possible. Convergence at time step (n+1) has resulted when

$$|h_{i,j}^{(k+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(k)}|^{(n+1)} \leq \epsilon$$

As for ADIPIT, selection of  $\omega$  materially affects convergence rate, and Varga (1962, pp. 283-297) outlines methods of estimating it for linear difference equations. For the nonlinear problems, however, the optimum  $\omega$  is usually selected by trial and error (McCracken and Dorn, 1964, p. 377).\* It was always between 1.3 and 1.6 for the problems investigated in this study.

For ADIPIT and SLOR,  $S_a^D$  and  $K_r$  were changed at each iteration. However, in a manner similar to ADIP, divergence sometimes occurred if the values as computed directly from h were used for the next iteration. Therefore, equation 31 was used to interpolate  $S_a^D$ , and  $K_r$  was obtained from the interpolated  $S_a^D$ .

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\* See addendum

It was found desirable to modify the basic equations for the three solution methods. Instead of writing  $h^{(k+1)}$  as an unknown in each equation, it was replaced by

$$h^{(k+1)} = h^{(k)} + \Delta h^{(k+1)} \quad (37)$$

where  $\Delta h^{(k+1)}$  is the displacement, or the change in  $h$  accomplished by one iteration. With equation 37 replacing  $h^{(k+1)}$  in the finite difference equations,  $\Delta h^{(k+1)}$  is the unknown, and terms involving  $h^{(k)}$  can be treated as knowns. This procedure, described fully in McCracken and Dorn (1964, pp. 243-246), accomplishes two main things. First, a higher degree of accuracy is attainable using fewer decimal places than could be gained using the original equations because  $\Delta h^{(k+1)}$  can be relaxed to very near zero. Second, it was found necessary to test the residual for each equation as well as the displacement when checking convergence, and the residual is obtained directly as the sum of all known terms if equation 37 is used. The residual had to be checked independently of the displacement because of the change in mesh volumes radially from the well. The same error in  $h$  can produce a much larger error in residual for a large mesh volume far from the well than for a small one near the well.

For each iteration all three methods yield tridiagonal matrix equations written in terms of the unknown displacements. The equations can be solved by a very efficient triangular decomposition technique, the Thomas method (Bruce, Peaceman, Rachford, and Rice, 1953, p. 79, Peaceman and Rachford, 1955, p. 34, McCarty and Barfield, 1958, p. 142, Lapidus, 1962, pp. 254-255).

The method and its application to equations of the type used here are detailed in the above references and will not be explored further here.

The boundary condition below the water level in the well bore was that of a known, constant head. However, this known head has to be interpreted as the head necessary to yield a constant specified discharge. Because the governing partial differential equation is nonlinear, superposition of solutions to correct the head to produce the desired discharge as was employed by Neuman and Witherspoon (1969, pp. 104-108) to **analyze** flow to a well in confined strata could not be used. An iterative solution method was employed in this study. At the beginning of the first two time steps an initial approximation for head  $h_w^{(k)}$ ,  $k=1$ , was obtained from Darcy's law for purely radial flow

$$h_w^{(1)} = h_{2,jb}^{(old)} - Q^D \left\{ \frac{r_2 - r_1}{2\pi r_1 \left[ \sum_{(ir)} (Kb)_{ir} \right]} \right\} \quad (38)$$

where  $jb$  refers to the  $j$  coordinate of the bottom of the well, and  $h^{(old)}$  refers to the value of  $h$  at the end of the last time level. The uppermost  $b_{ir}$  used was calculated as the difference between the water level in the well bore and the  $z$  coordinate at the region boundary just below the water level. Also,  $k$  as used for the present iteration procedure should not be confused with  $k$  used previously as iteration number in the solution of the difference equations. Assuming  $h_w$  as calculated by equation 38, the solution to the unknown head distribution was made, then the actual discharge yielded by  $h_w$  was calculated from

$$(Q_c^D)^{(k)} = \sum_{j=jb}^{js} (Q_{i,j-1/2} - Q_{i,j+1/2} - Q_{3/2,j} - \frac{\Delta ST}{\Delta t} \frac{D}{D}) \quad (39)$$



where

$$\Delta ST = (V_b)_{i,j} \left[ (S_w)_{i,j}^{(n+1/2)} (S_r)_{ir} (h_{i,j}^{(n+1)} - h_{i,j}^{(n)}) + (S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n)} - (S_a^D)_{i,j}^{(n+1)} \right].$$

The time step superscripts to be used with the Q's depend on the solution method being used. If

$$|(Q_c^D)^{(k)} - Q^D| > \epsilon_Q$$

then a new trial head  $h_w^{(k+1)}$ , was obtained from

$$h_w^{(k+1)} = \frac{(h_w^{(k)} - h_w^{(k-1)})}{[(Q_c^D)^{(k)} - (Q_c^D)^{(k-1)}]} \left[ Q^D - (Q_c^D)^{(k-1)} \right] + h_w^{(k-1)} \quad (40)$$

The solution to the unknown head distribution was made again, and  $Q_c^D$  was calculated and tested for convergence. If convergence was not obtained, equation 40 was reapplied, etc. The terms  $(Q_c^D)^{(k-1)}$  and  $h_w^{(k-1)}$  for the first iteration,  $k=1$ , were obtained from the last time level:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} h_w^{(k-1)} &= h_w^{(old)} \\ \text{and} \\ (Q_c^D)^{(k-1)} &= \left( \frac{1 - h_w^{(old)}}{1 - h_w^{(k)}} \right) Q^D \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (41)$$

The above iterative procedure for ADIP was employed only at time levels where flow components in the r direction were implicit. Discharges calculated for all mesh volumes were used explicitly as known quantities for solution in the z direction. Convergence for all solution methods was obtained in one, two, or at most three iterations.

After the second time step, all hydraulic heads were extrapolated, and new values of  $S_a^D$  and  $K_r$  were calculated from them. This extrapolation of

heads, which provided a better set of heads and coefficients to start the iterations than resulted from using the unextrapolated values, conformed to the basic logarithmic nature of problems involving flow to a well:

$$h_{i,j}^{(n+1)} = \frac{\log(t^{(n+1)}/t^{(n-1)})}{\log(t^{(n)}/t^{(n-1)})} (h_{i,j}^{(n)} - h_{i,j}^{(n-1)}) + h_{i,j}^{(n-1)} \quad (42)$$

Here  $h_{i,j}^{(n+1)}$  is the extrapolated value for time step (n+1) (or (n+1/2) for ADIP). The extrapolated term  $h_{i,j}^{(n+1)}$  was used as the initial estimate for the known head boundary condition in the well bore. For all except early values of time, this procedure often resulted in only one iteration to obtain the value of  $h_w^D$  to yield  $Q^D$ .

The location of the seepage surface was another initially unknown quantity for each time step, and it's determination was incorporated into the iteration sequence for solving the difference equations. At the beginning of the sequence, the top of the seepage surface was set at one node point below the uppermost node point with zero or positive pressure. Five iterations were completed with this boundary condition, the node points were checked, the top of the seepage surface was reset at the uppermost node point with zero or positive pressure, and the iteration sequence was completed. This procedure appeared to yield the correct elevation of the seepage surface for all time levels.

At the end of each full time step (i.e., at integer values of n), a total material balance check was made to ascertain whether total mass was being

conserved in the system. The basic balance equation is

$$\frac{-\sum_{(i,j)} (\Delta ST)}{\Delta t^D (Q_c^D - Q_e^D)} \approx 1 \quad (43)$$

The mass balance ratio was always within .002 of 1.00 and was usually much closer when using ADIPIT or SLOR.

#### COMPARISON OF SOLUTION METHODS

Because ADIP and ADIPIT have only been applied to problems involving wells that fully penetrate single elastic unconfined aquifers, comparisons were limited to this type of flow system. See table 1 for a list of the test problems.

The ADIP was found to be unsatisfactory for most problems investigated at least in part because the serial nature of the solution for flow components in the r and z directions caused a violation of the mechanics of flow at small values of time. The initial condition was a uniform head distribution; therefore, solution at  $n=1/2$  for flow in the r direction used the initial condition explicitly for flow in the z direction. Because no flow can take place under uniform head conditions, no drainage or desaturation could take place between  $n=0$  and  $n=1/2$ , no matter what size time step was used. Flow was purely radial, and, due to all discharge at the well bore being derived from elastic storage, the drawdown water table spread too far. (If the solution would have been made for flow in the z direction using the initial condition for flow in the r direction, no flow could exist across the well bore!)

Solution at  $n=1$  for flow in the  $z$  direction produced too much water from desaturation above the water table because vertical flow could take place as far from the well as the drawdown water table had spread during the first half time increment. At  $n=3/2$  the head in the well bore increased, apparently to compensate for the excess of water yielded from storage over what was withdrawn as well discharge during the last time step. These oscillations usually continued through the solution, and sometimes the solution became unstable. In an effort to combat the oscillation problem, the initial time step was made very small (.0005 minutes). In order to maintain stability, the time step could not be increased abruptly, however, and many time steps were needed to obtain a solution over a pumping period of several hours or longer. Briggs and Dixon (1968) found that the time step size for ADIP had to be severely restricted to dampen oscillations of the solution even for a simple linear case involving a well pumping in a rectangular aquifer with constant thickness and constant pressure boundaries. They concluded that, because of the time step restriction, ADIP was often not a satisfactory solution method.

The ADIPIT and SLOR methods were stable and yielded nearly the same solutions for all problems investigated (figures 3 and 4). In addition, they converged with a similar number of iterations (see table 2), although ADIPIT sometimes used slightly fewer. However, each iteration for ADIPIT involves two mesh sweeps, one in each direction; whereas, SLOR requires only one with the result that SLOR used less computer time.

Another problem with ADIPIT involved the selection and use of the acceleration parameters. Convergence rate was found to be sensitive to the number of parameters used and the value of the minimum parameter. The number was selected by equation 34, and it was found that if more parameters were used the convergence rate was slower. The minimum parameter had to be selected by trial and error. Values between .001 and .03 usually produced satisfactory convergence, but proper selection within the range had to be made for each problem. Also, as the time step size was increased during the course of a problem, the value of  $\omega_{\min}$  often had to be decreased or the number of iterations necessary for convergence became large, sometimes 50 or greater. In contrast, selection of  $\omega$  for SLOR was easier because only one value was needed at each time step, and often it could be varied over a range of about  $\pm 0.05$  without altering the number of iterations greatly (figure 5). In conclusion, although both ADIPIT and SLOR produced satisfactory solutions for the problems investigated, SLOR was faster and easier to use.

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## APPENDIX

### I. NOTATION

- A - constant for relationship of  $S_a^D$  to  $p_h$ ; general flow coefficient
- $A_x$  - coefficient for flow in the r direction
- $A_z$  - coefficient for flow in the z direction
- B - thickness of a rock property region
- b - dimensionless thickness of a rock property region =  $\frac{B}{H_o}$
- $b_T$  - dimensionless thickness of total flow system =  $\frac{B_T}{H_o}$
- c - water compressibility; exponent for relationship of  $S_a^D$  to  $p_h$
- $c_n$  - pore compressibility
- d - exponent for relationship of  $K_r$  to  $S_a$
- g - gravitational constant
- H - hydraulic head =  $P_h + Z$
- $H_o$  - initial hydraulic head
- h - dimensionless hydraulic head =  $\frac{H}{H_o}$
- $h_e$  - dimensionless head at external lateral boundary = 1
- $h_w$  - dimensionless head below water level in well bore
- J -  $\frac{\partial z}{\partial \zeta}$ , Jacobian
- K - hydraulic conductivity
- $K_o$  - hydraulic conductivity of reference rock property region
- $K^D$  - dimensionless conductivity =  $\frac{K}{K_o}$
- $K_c$  - capillary conductivity
- $K_r$  - relative conductivity =  $\frac{K_c}{K}$
- N - direction normal to S
- n - porosity

- $P$  - water pressure  
 $P_a$  - air pressure  
 $P_c$  - capillary pressure =  $P_a - P$   
 $P_h$  - water pressure head =  $\frac{P}{\rho g}$   
 $p_h$  - dimensionless pressure head =  $\frac{P_h}{H_o}$   
 $Q$  - discharge at well bore; dimensionless discharge at any point  
 $Q^D$  - dimensionless discharge at well bore =  $\frac{Q}{K_o H_o^2}$   
 $Q_c^D$  - calculated dimensionless discharge at well bore using  $h_w$   
 $Q_e^D$  - dimensionless discharge across external lateral boundary  
 $R$  - radius from well center  
 $r$  - dimensionless radius =  $\frac{R}{H_o}$   
 $r_e$  - dimensionless radius of external lateral boundary  
 $r_w$  - dimensionless radius of well bore  
 $S$  - surface area  
 $S_l$  - surface of mesh volume element  
 $S_r$  - storage ratio =  $\frac{S_o}{S_y}$   
 $S_s$  - specific storage  
 $S_y$  - specific yield =  $n S_{ar}$   
 $(S_y)_o$  - specific yield of reference rock property region  
 $S_y^D$  - specific yield ratio =  $\frac{S_y}{(S_y)_o}$   
 $S_a$  - air saturation =  $1 - S_w$   
 $S_a^D$  - normalized air saturation =  $\frac{S_a}{S_{ar}}$   
 $S_{ar}$  - residual air saturation  
 $S_w$  - water saturation

- $t$  - time  
 $t^D$  - dimensionless time =  $\frac{K_o t}{(S_y)_o H_o}$   
 $\vec{v}$  - discharge of water per unit area  
 $V$  - volume  
 $V_b$  - volume coefficient for storage change  
 $V_\ell$  - mesh volume element  
 $V_o$  - fixed initial volume element,  $\Delta x \Delta y \Delta \zeta$   
 $V(t)$  - volume element that deforms with time  
 $V_v$  - volume of voids  
 $w_g$  - velocity of grains in the Z direction  
 $Z$  - deforming elevation above the bottom of the flow system  
 $z$  - dimensionless deforming elevation =  $\frac{Z}{H_o}$   
 $z_B$  - dimensionless elevation of well bottom  
 $z_s$  - dimensionless elevation of top of seepage surface at well bore  
 $\epsilon$  - convergence criterion ( $10^{-7}$ )  
 $\epsilon_Q$  - convergence criterion for discharge calculations iterations =  $.001Q^D$   
 $\zeta$  - fixed initial vertical coordinate  
 $\rho$  - mass density of water  
 $\omega$  - acceleration parameter  
 $\omega_s$  - interpolation parameter for  $S_a^D$  interpolation

## Indices

- i - node point number in r direction
- ir - rock property region number
- j - node point number in z direction
- jb - j number of well bottom
- js - j number of top of seepage surface
- k - iteration number
- n - time step number

## II. DERIVATION OF SPECIFIC STORAGE

From the concept of volume element  $V(t)$  deforming elastically in response to pressure changes,

$$dV(t) = JdV_0 \quad (1)$$

(Cooper, 1966, p. 4788, Aris, 1962, p. 83). Using equation 1 and the relationship

$$\frac{1}{J} \frac{\partial J}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \quad (2)$$

(Cooper, 1966, p. 4788), the integral involving the rate of change of storage with time over  $V(t)$  may be transformed to an integral over  $V_0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iiint_{V(t)} S_w \rho n dV \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \iiint_{V_0} S_w \rho n J dV \\ &= \iiint_{V_0} \left[ \rho n J \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w J \left( n \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \rho n \frac{1}{J} \frac{\partial J}{\partial t} \right) \right] dV \\ &= \iiint_{V(t)} \left[ \rho n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w \left( n \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \rho n \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} \right) \right] dV \end{aligned}$$

The compressibility of water is defined as

$$\begin{aligned}
 c &= - \frac{1}{V} \frac{dV}{dP} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{dP} .
 \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Taking the time derivative

$$c\rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} . \tag{5}$$

Aquifer compressibility can be defined

$$c_n = \frac{1}{\delta V_v} \frac{d(\delta V_v)}{dP} . \tag{6}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_n &= \frac{1}{n\delta V(t)} \frac{d(n\delta V(t))}{dP} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n\delta V(t)} \left[ \delta V(t) \frac{dn}{dP} + n \frac{d(\delta V(t))}{dP} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{dn}{dP} + \frac{1}{\delta V(t)} \frac{d(\delta V(t))}{dP} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{dn}{dP} + \frac{1}{J\delta V_o} \frac{d(J\delta V_o)}{dP} \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \frac{dn}{dP} + \frac{1}{J} \frac{dJ}{dP} .
 \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

Multiplying by  $\rho n$  and taking the time derivative, there results

$$\rho n c_n \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \rho \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} + \rho n \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} . \tag{8}$$

Using equations 5 and 8, equation 3 thus becomes

$$\iiint_{V(t)} \left[ \rho n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w \rho n (c+c_n) \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} \right] dV$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \iiint_{V(t)} \left[ \rho n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w \rho^2 g n (c + c_n) \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \right] dV \\
&= \iiint_{V(t)} \left[ \rho n \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + S_w \rho S_s \frac{\partial H}{\partial t} \right] dV \tag{9}
\end{aligned}$$

ADDENDUM

Further investigation has yielded a method of generating  $\omega$  internally for each time step except the first. At the end of a time step, the following quantities are computed:

$$G_{\omega} = \left[ \sum_{k=8}^{it} \left| \frac{\max(\Delta h_k)}{\max(\Delta h_{k-1})} \right| \right] / it \quad (1)$$

$$G'_{\omega} = \left[ \sum_{k=8}^{it} \frac{\max(\Delta h_k)}{\max(\Delta h_{k-1})} \right] / it \quad (2)$$

$$G = \frac{[G_{\omega} + \omega_{old} - 1]^2}{G_{\omega} \omega_{old}^2} \quad (3)$$

Here  $\omega_{old}$  is the acceleration parameter used for the time step just completed, and (it) is the number of iterations for the last cycle of iterations. Using G computed from equation 3, a new trial acceleration parameter,  $\omega'$ , is computed:

$$\omega' = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - G}} \quad (4)$$

If

$$|G_{\omega} - G'_{\omega}| > 0.1 \quad (5)$$

then  $\omega_{old}$  is adjusted:

$$\omega = \omega_{old} - (\omega' - \omega_{old}) \quad (6)$$



Equation 3 and 4 represent theoretical relationships between the spectral radius of the block Gauss-Seidel matrix,  $G$ , and the spectral radius of the block successive overrelaxation matrix,  $G_\omega$ , with  $\omega_{old}$  as the acceleration parameter (Varga, 1962, pp. 105-111). The method outlined by equations 1 through 4 computed close to the optimum  $\omega$  if convergence of the maximum displacement was monotonic (i.e., if  $G_\omega = G'_\omega$ ). However, if the solution oscillated during iterations, then the  $\omega_{old}$  used was too large, and it was reduced for the next time step using equation 6.

Table 1. Test problems for comparison of the ADIPIT and SLOR

| Problem number | Q (gpm) | K (gpd/ft <sup>2</sup> ) | S <sub>y</sub> | S <sub>s</sub> (ft <sup>-1</sup> ) | A       | S <sub>ar</sub> | c | d | H <sub>o</sub> (ft) | r <sub>e</sub> (ft) | r <sub>w</sub> (ft) |
|----------------|---------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|---|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1              | 5       | 1000                     | .225           | .00001                             | 2       | .75             | 3 | 1 | 18                  | 256                 | .5                  |
| 2              | 5       | 1000                     | .225           | .00001                             | 2       | .75             | 3 | 1 | 18                  | 1280                | .5                  |
| 3              | 50      | 1000                     | .225           | .00001                             | 2       | .75             | 3 | 1 | 18                  | 256                 | .5                  |
| 4              | 50      | 1000                     | .225           | .00001                             | 2       | .75             | 3 | 1 | 18                  | 1280                | .5                  |
| 5              | 1000    | 2720                     | .032           | .00002                             | 2       | .15             | 3 | 1 | 100                 | 4000                | .67                 |
| 6              | 1000    | 2720                     | .032           | .00002                             | 500,000 | .15             | 5 | 4 | 100                 | 4000                | .67                 |

Table 2. Total number of iterations at each time step for 6 time steps, test problem no. 4.

| Time step<br>number | $h_w$  | no. of iterations |      |
|---------------------|--------|-------------------|------|
|                     |        | ADIPIT            | SLOR |
| 1                   | .9646* | 17                | 25   |
|                     | .8891  | 35                | 26   |
| 2                   | .8916  | 22                | 19   |
|                     | .8732  | 26                | 26   |
|                     | .8813  | 26                | 24   |
| 3                   | .8882  | 26                | 24   |
|                     | .8858  | 26                | 25   |
|                     | .8864  | 26                | 25   |
| 4                   | .8867  | 26                | 25   |
|                     | .8855  | 26                | 25   |
| 5                   | .8843  | 26                | 25   |
|                     | .8841  | 26                | 25   |
| 6                   | .8828  | 27                | 26   |
|                     | .8826  | 25                | 26   |

\* These values differed in the fifth or sixth decimal place between methods.

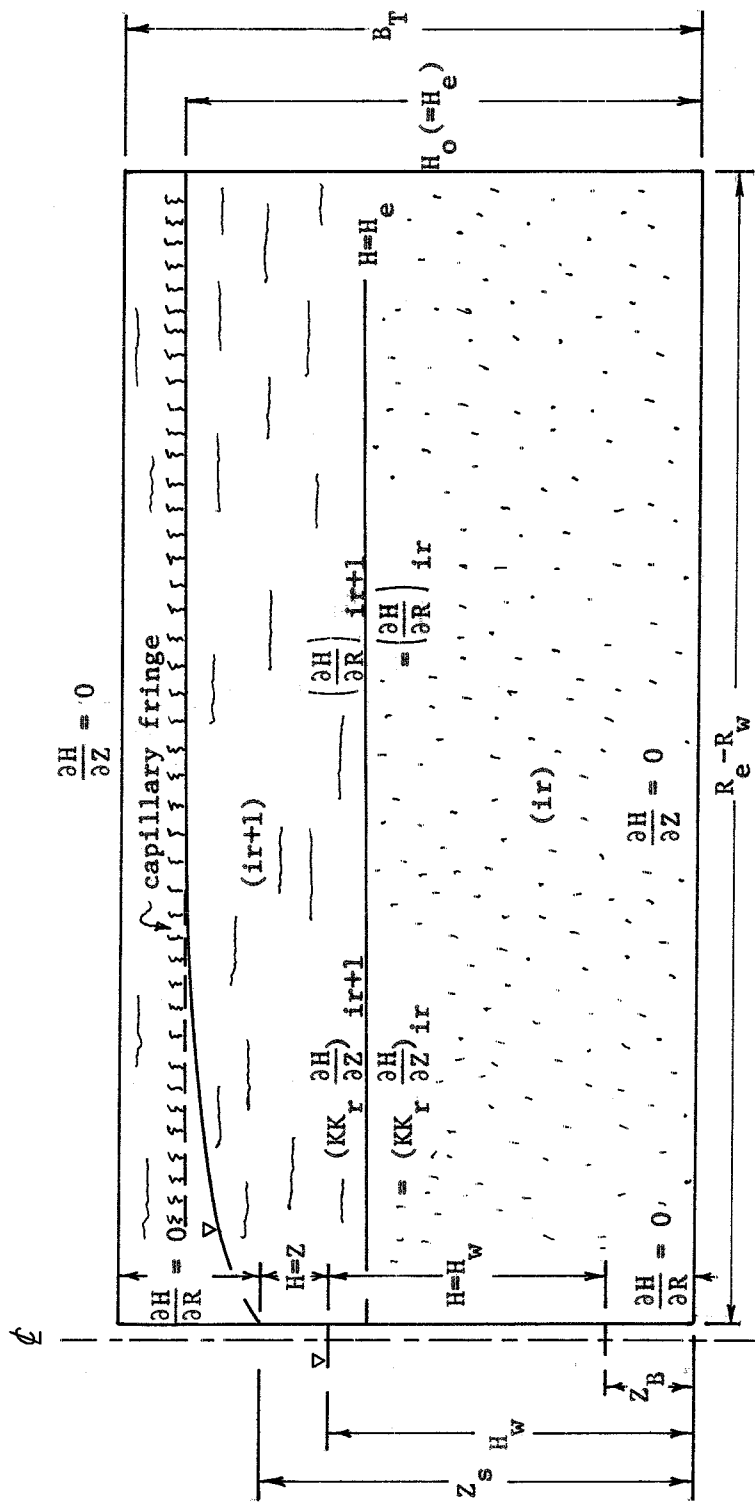


Figure 1. Geometry and boundary conditions for flow to a well completely penetrating an upper rock unit  $(ir+1)$  and partially penetrating the lower  $(ir)$ .

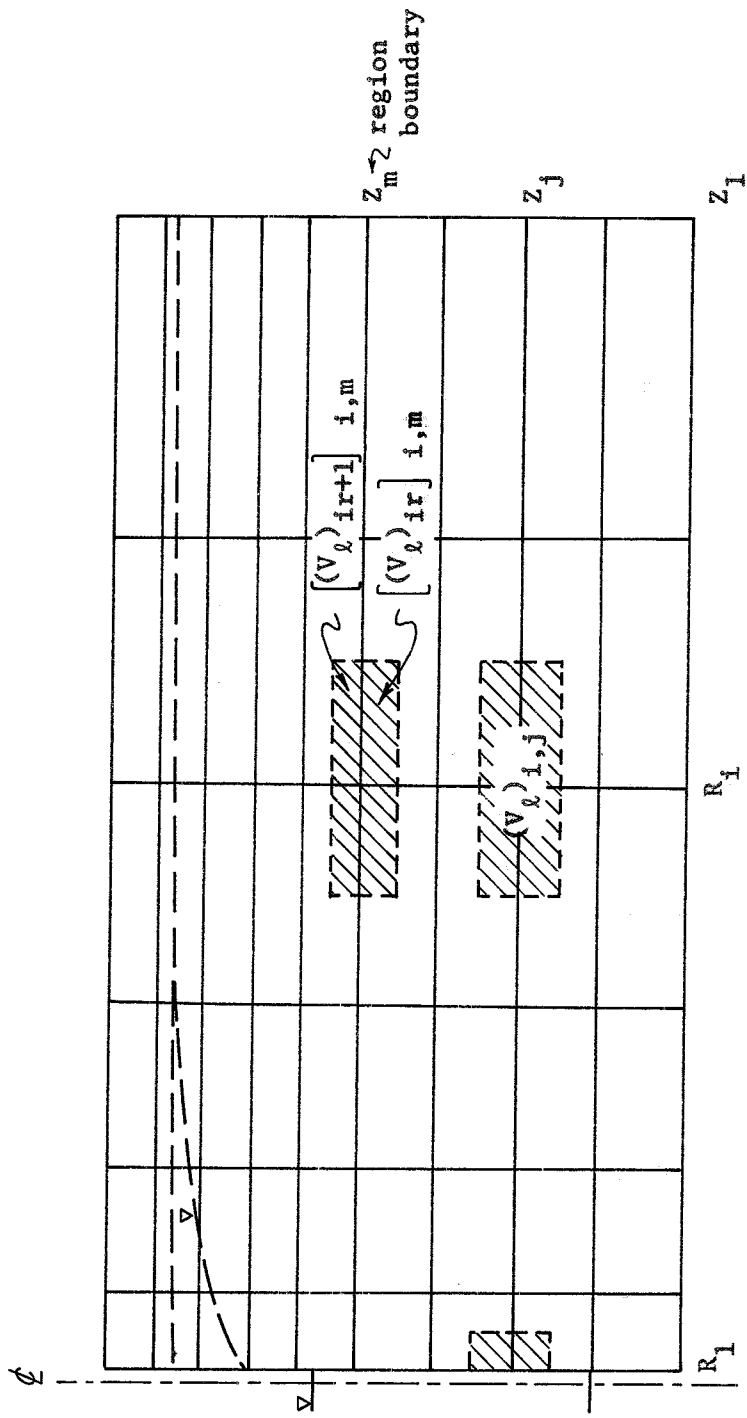


Figure 2. Schematic finite difference mesh and selected mesh volumes for the case depicted in figure 1.

| Symbol | Explanation | Test Problem |
|--------|-------------|--------------|
| ○      |             | 1 and 2      |
| x      |             | 3 and 4      |
| □      |             | 5            |
| △      |             | 6            |

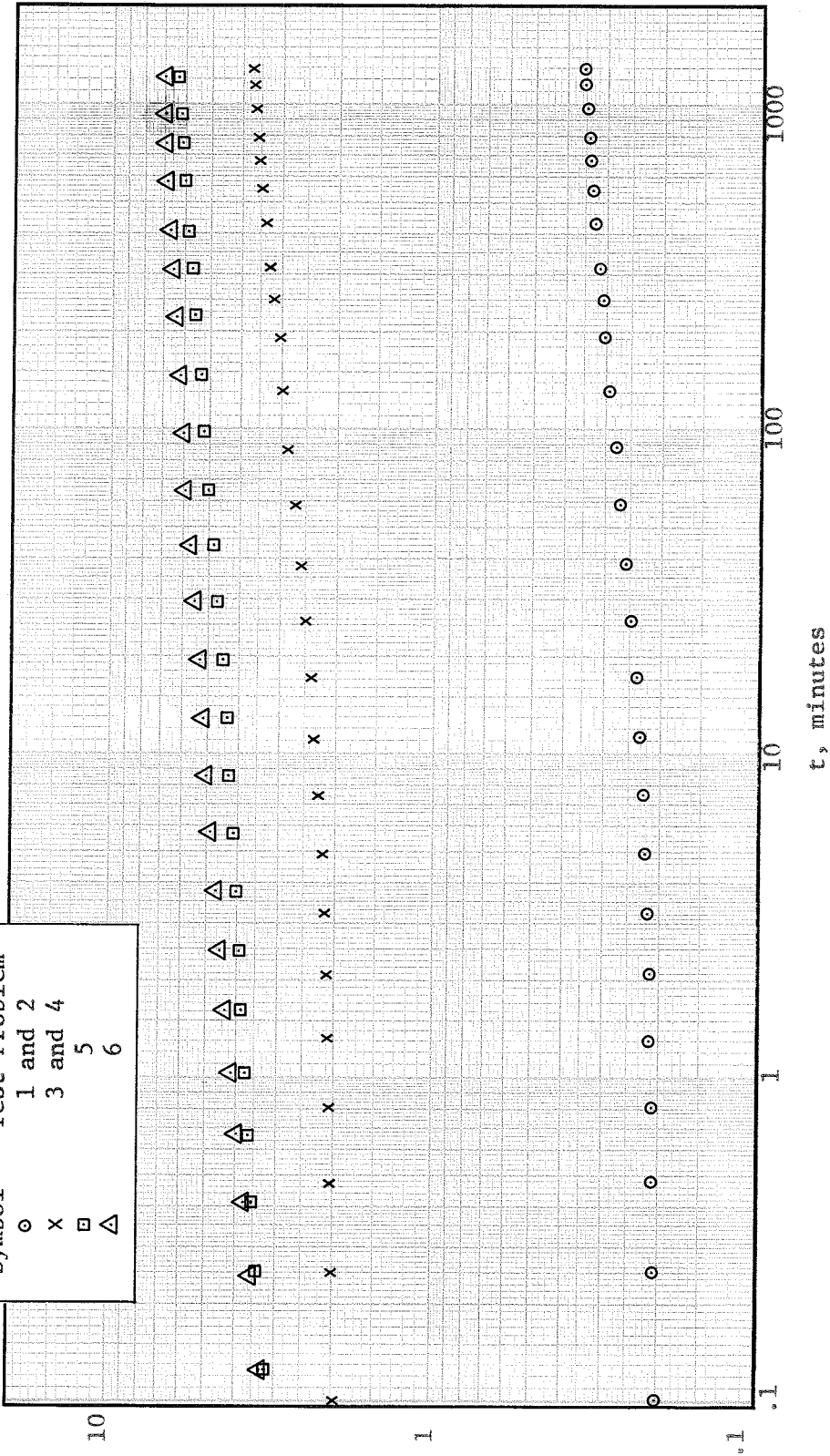


Figure 3. Graphs of time vs drawdown at the well bore for the test problems solved by ADIPIT and SLOR (see table 1 for information about the problems). Differences in values of drawdown calculated by the two methods could not be shown at the scale of the graph.

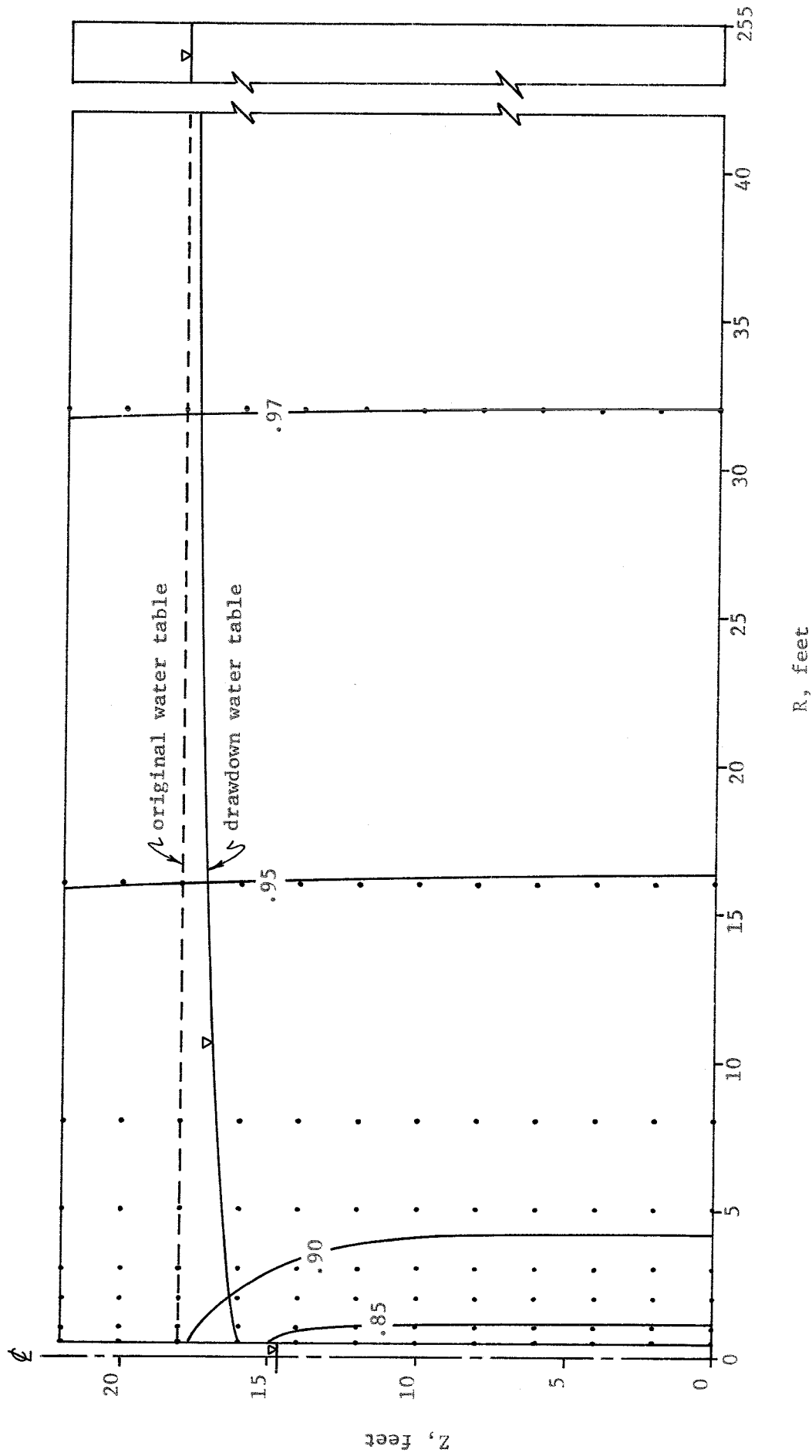
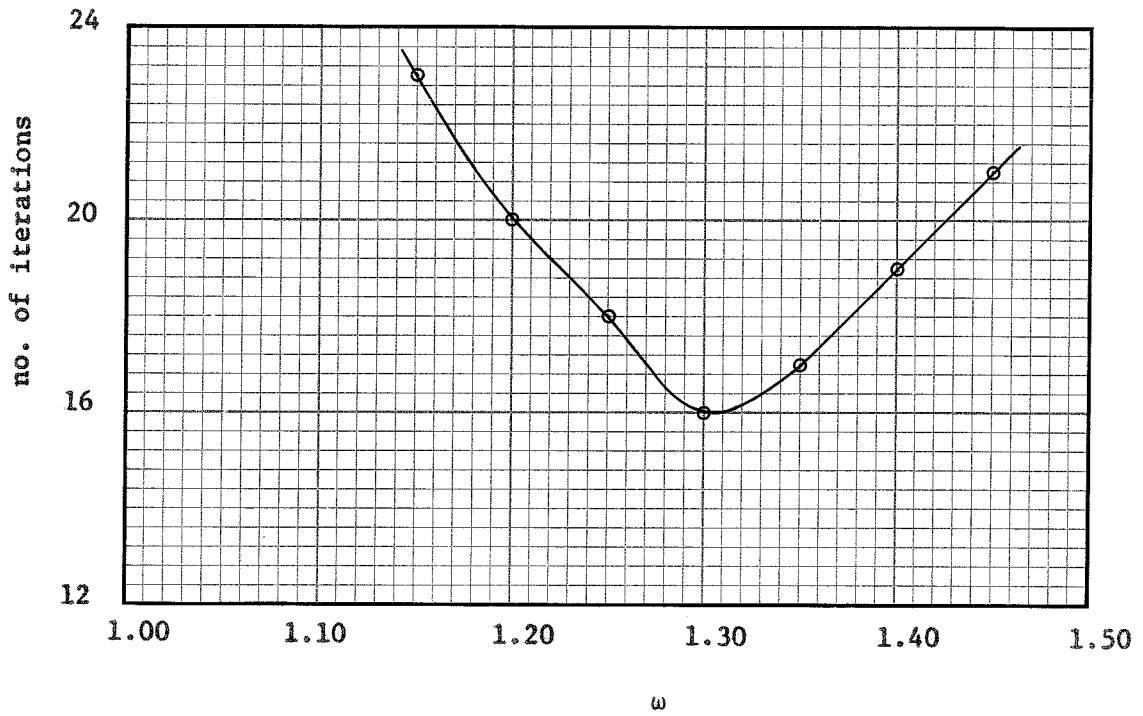


Figure 4. Flow system and mesh point configuration at  $t = 311$  minutes for test problems no. 3. Contours represent the fraction of the original hydraulic head (18 feet) remaining at time  $t$ .



Test problem no. 5  
 Time step no. 1  
 Assumed  $h_w = 0.98956$

Figure 5. Number of iterations for each assumed  $\omega$  needed to reduce the maximum displacement,  $|h^{(k+1)} - h^{(k)}|_{\max}$ , to  $10^{-7}$  using SLOR.



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