

(An ISO 3297: 2007 Certified Organization) Vol. 3, Issue 2, February 2014

The Solution of Instability Phenomenon Arising in Homogeneous Porous Media by Crank-Nicolson Finite Difference Method

Ravi N. Borana¹, V. H. Pradhan², and M. N. Mehta³

Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, Bhavan's Sheth R. A. College of Science, Ahmedabad, India¹

Associate Professor, Department of Applied Mathematics and Humanities, S. V. N. I. T., Surat, India³

Professor, Department of Applied Mathematics and Humanities, S. V. N. I. T., Surat, India³

Abstract: During secondary oil recovery process, when water is injected in oil formatted area to recover remaining oil, the important phenomenon Instability (fingering) occurs due to the injecting force, difference of viscosity and wettability of the water and oil gives rise to the protuberances (instability) at common interface. The injected water will shoot through the porous medium at relatively high speed through the inter connected capillaries and its shape is as good as fingers, therefore it is also called fingering phenomenon and fingers are unstable due to the injecting force, so it is also known as instability phenomenon. The mathematical formulation yields to a non-linear partial differential equation known as Boussinesq equation. Its solution has been obtained by using unconditionally stable Crank-Nicolson finite difference scheme with appropriate initial and boundary conditions. The solution has been compared with the solution of this phenomenon. It is concluded that the solution obtained is very close to the solution obtained by finite element method and analytical method. The solution represents saturation of injected water occupied by average cross-sectional area of schematic fingers for instability phenomenon. The Matlab coding is used for numerical values and graphical presentation of the solution.

Keywords: Water-flooding process, Instability, immiscible displacement, Crank-Nicolson finite difference scheme, flow through porous medium.

I. INTRODUCTION

The natural oil field is very large to study the effect of water injection (water flooding) in oil recovery process. In primary recovery process the oil is recovered by natural pressure but after sometime this recovery process does not effect. Hence, the remaining oil from oil basin may be recovered from oil formatted porous medium by injecting different fluids like water, gas, steam and polymer in secondary oil recovery process.



Fig. 1 Actual formation of Secondary oil recovery process



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To study this effect many authors have studied this phenomenon by choosing small cylindrical piece of porous matrix from large natural oil basin with three sides are impermeable except one end. For the sake of mathematical study, for one-dimensional study of displacement process, taking vertical cross-sectional area of the cylindrical piece of porous matrix of length L which is shown as rectangle having irregular fingers in right side of common interface x=0 (figure 2), Scheidegger and Johnson [15] suggested to replace irregular fingers by schematic fingers of rectangular shape which is shown by the figure 4. They considered average crosssectional area occupied by schematic fingers, as saturation of injected water which is shown by rectangle in right side of common interface x=0 (figure 4).



Fig. 2 The formation of natural fingers during instability phenomenon in the porous medium

The present paper describes instability (fingering) phenomenon in double phase flow of two immiscible fluids (water and oil) through homogeneous porous medium. The displacement of native oil by another of lesser viscosity injected water provides a well-developed finger. Thus, when injected water flowing through porous medium and displacing native fluid oil, then instead of regular displacement of whole front, protuberances (fingers) take place which shoots through the porous medium at relatively very high speed.

In the present paper our interest is to solve non-linear partial differential equation for one-dimensional instability phenomenon arising in homogeneous porous medium during secondary oil recovery process. The numerical solution of this equation has been obtained by using Crank-Nicolson scheme of finite difference method and the solution has been compared with the numerical solution by Finite Element Method and Exact solution obtained by analytical method.

II. RELATED RESEARCH WORK

The instability phenomenon in double phase flow of two immiscible fluids (water and oil) through homogeneous porous medium has been discussed in various aspects and from a different view points by number of eminent scholars and researchers. The injected water, intended to push the native fluid forward, tends to penetrate the more viscous native oil through spontaneously formed multi-branched fingers (Marle, 1981) [5]. Saffman and Taylor (1958) derived a classical result for the shape of finger in the absence of capillary. Scheidegger (1960) [14] considered the average cross-sectional area occupied by the fingers while the size and shape of the individual fingers were neglected. Scheidegger and Johnson (1961) [15] discussed the statistical behaviour of instabilities in homogeneous porous media without capillary pressure. Verma (1969) [19, 20, 21, 22] has discussed the statistical behavior of the fingering phenomenon in a displacement process in heterogeneous porous medium with capillary pressure using perturbation solution.

The shape, size and velocity prediction of fingers occurring in this phenomenon has been studied, under different situations with different viewpoints by many researchers and engineers from petroleum industry for optimising secondary oil recovery process. Lange et al., 1998; Brailovsky et al., 2006; Zhan and Yortsos, 2000 Wang and Feyen, 1998 and Brailovsky et al. (2006) [2] numerically formulated a non-linear evolution equation for water oil displacement front. They discussed to control the unrestricted growth of fingers by the injection of water not uniformly but rather during suitably distributed intervals of time. Mukherjee and Pinki (2009) have obtained an analytical solution of fingering phenomenon arising in fluid flow through porous media by using techniques of calculus of variation and similarity theory.



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Mehta and Yadav (2009) [7], Joshi and Mehta (2009) [8], Meher and Mehta (2011) [9], Pradhan and Mehta (2011) [10], Mehta and Kinjal (2011) [11], and Mehta and Vyas (2013) have discussed the solution of the Instability phenomenon arising in fluid flow through porous media by the different methods like Group Invariant, Power Series, Finite Element, Lie theoretic approach.

III. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

To study the phenomenon of instability in homogeneous porous medium we choose a cylindrical piece of porous matrix of length L whose three sides are impermeable except one end, from where water is injected. For mathematical study we take vertical cross-sectional area of this cylindrical piece of porous matrix which is rectangle and open end will be the common interface x = 0.

Let the water be injected at x = 0 then due to the injecting force and viscosity difference the protuberances or instability may arise which is due to the displacement of oil by water injection through inter connected capillaries. The length x of the fingers is being measured in the direction of displacement. Scheidegger and Johnson [15] suggested replacing these irregular fingers by schematic fingers of rectangular size.



Fig. 3 The formation of fingers in the cylindrical piece of porous medium

For the sake of mathematical study, consider the average cross-sectional area occupied by schematic fingers as a saturation of injected water for the average length of schematic finger x = 0, for the given time t > 0.



Fig. 4 (i) Schematic representation of the fingers and (ii) Average cross-sectional area of the fingers in the rectangular porous matrix.





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IV. MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION

When water is injected, at common interface x = 0 the oil will be displaced from the porous medium. Hence, seepage velocities of injected water (V_w) and native oil (V_o) are expressed by Darcy's law (1856) for these two immiscible fluids as Bear (1972) [1],

$$V_{w} = -\frac{k_{w}}{\delta_{w}} K \frac{\partial P_{w}}{\partial x}$$
(1.1)

$$V_o = -\frac{k_o}{\delta_o} K \frac{\partial P_o}{\partial x}$$
(1.2)

where, K is the permeability of the homogeneous porous medium, k_w and k_o are the relative permeability of water and oil, which are functions of the saturations of the water and oil S_w and S_o respectively. P_w and P_o are the pressure of water and oil respectively. δ_w and δ_o are the constant kinematics viscosities of injecting water and displacing oil respectively. The injecting water and displaced oil also satisfy the equation of continuity for their constant phase densities as

$$P\frac{\partial S_w}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial V_w}{\partial x} = 0 \tag{1.3}$$

$$P\frac{\partial S_o}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial V_o}{\partial x} = 0 \tag{1.4}$$

where, P is the porosity of the porous medium. Substituting the values of the seepage velocities V_w and V_o from the equations (1.1) and (1.2) into the equations (1.3) and (1.4) respectively. We get,

 $P\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{k_{w}}{\delta_{w}} K \frac{\partial P_{w}}{\partial x} \right)$ (1.5) $P\frac{\partial S_{o}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{k_{o}}{\delta_{o}} K \frac{\partial P_{o}}{\partial x} \right)$ (1.6)

When water is injected at common interface flow of injected water takes place only due to the capillary pressure P_c which is defined as pressure difference between native oil and injected water (Scheidegger, 1960) [14, 15, 16];

$$P_c = P_o - P_w \tag{1.7}$$

Eliminating $\frac{\partial P_w}{\partial x}$ from equations (1.5) and (1.7), we obtain



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$$P\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(K \frac{k_{w}}{\delta_{w}} \left(\frac{\partial P_{o}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P_{c}}{\partial x} \right) \right)$$
(1.8)

For more simplification adding (1.6) and (1.8) and using the relation $S_w + S_o = 1$; we get

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(K \left(\frac{k_w}{\delta_w} + \frac{k_o}{\delta_o} \right) \frac{\partial P_o}{\partial x} - K \frac{k_w}{\delta_w} \frac{\partial P_c}{\partial x} \right) = 0$$
(1.9)

Now integrating above equation w. r. t. x, we get

$$\left(K\left(\frac{k_{w}}{\delta_{w}}+\frac{k_{o}}{\delta_{o}}\right)\frac{\partial P_{o}}{\partial x}-K\frac{k_{w}}{\delta_{w}}\frac{\partial P_{c}}{\partial x}\right)=-A(t)$$
(1.10)

where, A(t) is constant of integration. Simplification of the equation (1.10) gives

$$\frac{\partial P_o}{\partial x} = \frac{-A(t)}{K\left(\frac{k_w}{\delta_w} + \frac{k_o}{\delta_o}\right)} + \frac{\frac{\partial P_c}{\partial x}}{1 + \frac{k_o}{k_w}\frac{\delta_w}{\delta_o}}$$
(1.11)

Using (1.11) in (1.8) we have,

$$P\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{K\frac{k_{o}}{\delta_{o}}\frac{\partial P_{c}}{\partial x}}{1 + \frac{k_{o}}{k_{w}}\frac{\delta_{w}}{\delta_{o}}} + \frac{A(t)}{1 + \frac{k_{o}}{k_{w}}\frac{\delta_{w}}{\delta_{o}}} \right] = 0$$
(1.12)

For more simplification we replace the pressure of oil P_o as

$$P_{o} = \frac{P_{o} + P_{w}}{2} + \frac{P_{o} - P_{w}}{2} = \overline{P} + \frac{1}{2}P_{c}$$
(1.13)

where, \overline{P} the mean pressure which is constant, and also using the relation (1.7) we get,

$$\frac{\partial P_o}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial P_c}{\partial x} \tag{1.14}$$

Using (1.14) in (1.10) and substituting the value of A(t), we get

$$P\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(K\frac{k_{w}}{\delta_{w}}\frac{\partial P_{c}}{\partial S_{w}}\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial x}\right) = 0$$
(1.15)

For the further simplification we use the following standard relations $K_w = S_w \& P_c = -\beta S_w$ Mehta [6]; the

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equation (1.15) gives,

$$P\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial t} - \frac{\beta}{2}\frac{K}{\delta_{w}}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(S_{w}\frac{\partial S_{w}}{\partial x}\right) = 0$$
(1.16)

The above equation (1.16) is a nonlinear Boussinesq equation representing phenomenon of instability in homogeneous porous medium.

V. SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM USING CRANK-NICOLSON SCHEME

To make the equation (1.16) dimensionless, we set the dimensionless variables as

$$X = \frac{x}{L} \text{ and } T = \frac{K\beta t}{2\delta_w L^2 P} \text{ where } 0 \le X \le 1, \ 0 \le T \le 1. \text{ The equation (1.16) reduces to}$$
$$\frac{\partial S_w}{\partial T} = \frac{\partial}{\partial X} \left(S_w \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial X} \right) \tag{1.17}$$

To solve this non-linear partial differential equation for instability phenomenon we choose the set of boundary conditions.

Let at the common interface saturation of injected water be linear function of time T then it can be expressed as $S_w(0, T) = T, \qquad 0 < T \le 1$ (1.18)

And also let the saturation of injected water at end x = L, the end condition is

$$S_w(1,T) = 1 - T, \quad 0 \le T < 1$$
 (1.19)

Also, we assume that initial saturation is a linear function of X,

$$S_w(X,0) = X, \qquad 0 < X \le 1$$
 (1.20)

The expression (1.17) is discretized according to Crank-Nicolson finite difference scheme as follows [12, 3, 13, 17, 18]:

$$\frac{1}{\left(\Delta X\right)^{2}} \left[S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_{w_{i+1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - S_{w_{i-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{2} \right) \right] \left[S_{w_{i+1,n+1}} + S_{w_{i+1,n}} \right] + \frac{1}{\left(\Delta X\right)^{2}} \left[S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_{w_{i+1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - S_{w_{i-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{2} \right) \right] \left[S_{w_{i-1,n+1}} + S_{w_{i-1,n+1}} \right] + 2 \left[-\frac{S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{\left(\Delta X\right)^{2}} - \frac{1}{\Delta T} \right] S_{w_{i,n+1}} + 2 \left[-\frac{S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{\left(\Delta X\right)^{2}} + \frac{1}{\Delta T} \right] S_{w_{i,n}} = 0 \qquad \dots (1.21)$$

where the value of $S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}}$ is obtained from the following equation

$$S_{wi,n+\frac{1}{2}} = S_{wi,n} + \frac{\Delta T}{2} \left[S_{wi,n} \cdot \frac{\left(S_{wi+1,n} - 2S_{wi,n} + S_{wi-1,n}\right)}{\left(\Delta X\right)^2} + \left(\frac{S_{wi+1,n} - S_{wi,n}}{2\left(\Delta X\right)}\right)^2 \right]$$
(1.22)

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Introducing the ratio $r = \frac{\Delta T}{\left(\Delta X\right)^2}$, the equation (1.22) becomes

$$S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} = S_{w_{i,n}} + \frac{r}{2} \left[S_{w_{i,n}} \cdot \left(S_{w_{i+1,n}} - 2S_{w_{i,n}} + S_{w_{i-1,n}} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left(S_{w_{i+1,n}} - S_{w_{i-1,n}} \right)^2 \right]$$
(1.23)

Substituting the value of equation (1.23) in the equation (1.21), on simplifying, equation (1.21) we obtain the Crank-Nicolson finite difference scheme about the point $\left(X_i, T_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}\right)$ for the present problem represented by the equation (1.17).

The discretization of the equation (1.17) using the conditions of equation (1.18), (1.19) and (1.20) is as under

$$[12]: \text{ For } i = 1, S_{w_{1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} = S_{w_{1,n}} + \frac{r}{2} \bigg[S_{w_{1,n}} \cdot (S_{w_{2,n}} - 3S_{w_{1,n}} + 2T) + \frac{1}{4} (S_{w_{2,n}} + S_{w_{1,n}} - 2T)^2 \bigg] \\ - \bigg[\frac{11}{4} S_{w_{1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{2,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + T + \frac{2}{r} \bigg] S_{w_{1,n+1}} + \bigg[\frac{5}{4} S_{w_{1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{2,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - T \bigg] S_{w_{2,n+1}} \\ = \bigg[\frac{11}{4} S_{w_{1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{2,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + T - \frac{2}{r} \bigg] S_{w_{1,n}} - \bigg[\frac{5}{4} S_{w_{1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{2,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - T \bigg] S_{w_{2,n}} \\ - 4T \bigg[\frac{3}{4} S_{w_{1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{2,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + T \bigg] \qquad (1.24)$$

Also, for all the points between X= 0 and X=1the scheme is for $2 \le i \le R - 1$;

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_{w_{i+1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - S_{w_{i-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{2} \right) \end{bmatrix} S_{w^{i+1,n+1}} + \begin{bmatrix} -2S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{2}{r} \end{bmatrix} S_{w^{i,n+1}} + \begin{bmatrix} S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_{w_{i+1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - S_{w_{i-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{2} \right) \end{bmatrix} S_{w^{i-1,n+1}} = -\begin{bmatrix} S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_{w_{i+1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - S_{w_{i-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{2} \right) \end{bmatrix} S_{w^{i+1,n}} + \begin{bmatrix} 2S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{2}{r} \end{bmatrix} S_{w^{i,n}} - \begin{bmatrix} S_{w_{i,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{S_{w_{i+1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - S_{w_{i-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}}}{2} \right) \end{bmatrix} S_{w^{i-1,n}} \dots \dots (1.25)$$

At the end for $i = R$, $S_{w_{R,n+\frac{1}{2}}} = S_{w^{R,n}} + \frac{r}{2} \begin{bmatrix} S_{w^{R,n}} \cdot \left(S_{w^{R-1,n}} - 3S_{w^{R,n}} + 2(1-T) \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left(2(1-T) - S_{w^{R-1,n}} - S_{w^{R,n}} \right)^2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{4} S_{w_{R,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{R-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - 1 + T \end{bmatrix} S_{w_{R-1,n+1}} - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{11}{4} S_{w_{R,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{R-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{2}{r} + 1 - T \end{bmatrix} S_{w_{R,n+1}} = -\begin{bmatrix} \frac{5}{4} S_{w_{R,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{R-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - 1 + T \end{bmatrix} S_{w_{R-1,n}} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{11}{4} S_{w_{R,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{R-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{2}{r} + 1 - T \end{bmatrix} S_{w_{R,n}} - 4(1 - T) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{4} S_{w_{R,n+\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{4} S_{w_{R-1,n+\frac{1}{2}}} + 1 - T \end{bmatrix} \dots \dots \dots (1.26)$$

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The numerical values obtained by using schemes given by the equations (1.24), (1.25) and (1.26) to determine the saturation of injected water at different distance X (average length of schematic fingers) for given time T >0. The tabular values are given for grid length dX=0.025, width dT=0.0005 and ratio r = 0.8

X∖T	T=0.001	T=0.002	T=0.003	T=0.004	T=0.005
0	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005	0.0005
0.025	0.025698362	0.026431664	0.027204721	0.028020322	0.028881501
0.050	0.051000555	0.052009663	0.053032257	0.054068155	0.055117198
0.075	0.076001492	0.077008342	0.078019909	0.079035664	0.080055119
0.100	0.101000041	0.102000497	0.103001559	0.104003304	0.105005764
0.125	0.126000001	0.126999981	0.127999923	0.128999839	0.129999753
0.150	0.151000000	0.151999995	0.152999972	0.153999919	0.154999829
0.175	0.176000000	0.177000000	0.177999997	0.178999989	0.1799999970
0.200	0.201000000	0.202000000	0.203000000	0.203999999	0.204999997
0.225	0.226000000	0.227000000	0.228000000	0.229000000	0.230000000
0.250	0.251000000	0.252000000	0.253000000	0.254000000	0.255000000
0.275	0.276000000	0.277000000	0.278000000	0.279000000	0.280000000
0.300	0.301000000	0.302000000	0.303000000	0.304000000	0.305000000
0.325	0.326000000	0.327000000	0.328000000	0.329000000	0.330000000
0.350	0.351000000	0.352000000	0.353000000	0.354000000	0.355000000
0.375	0.376000000	0.377000000	0.378000000	0.379000000	0.380000000
0.400	0.401000000	0.402000000	0.403000000	0.404000000	0.405000000
0.425	0.426000000	0.427000000	0.428000000	0.429000000	0.430000000
0.450	0.451000000	0.452000000	0.453000000	0.454000000	0.455000000
0.475	0.476000000	0.477000000	0.478000000	0.479000000	0.480000001
0.500	0.501000000	0.502000000	0.503000000	0.504000000	0.505000004

The Saturation Sw(X, T) of injected water at different distance X for the time T>0

 $\label{eq:table_$

By using MATLAB coding the above tabular values and the following figure 5 (i) and (ii) are obtained which represent the saturation of injected water $S_w(X, T)$ vs. X and $S_w(X, T)$ vs. T.



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Fig. 5 (i)The graph of water Saturation $S_w(X, T)$ vs. Distance X at the different time levels T (ii)The graph of water Saturation $S_w(X, T)$ vs. Time T at the different distances X

For the validity of finite difference scheme by Crank-Nicolson, we have compared the solution obtained by the Finite Element Method (FEM) and Exact (Analytical Method) solution.

The following table shows comparison of the solutions.

The injected water Saturation $S_w(X, T)$ by FEM, FDM and AM						
	X=0.1			X=0.2		
Т	FEM	Exact	FDM	FEM	Exact	FDM
	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution
0.001	0.10091189	0.1008 0.	1010000411	0.20099647	0.2006 (0.2010000000
0.002	0.10174459	0.1016 0 .	1020004967	0.20199440	0.2012	0.2019999999
0.003	0.10253526	0.1024 0.	1030015588	0.20299616	0.2018	0.2029999998
0.004	0.10331395	0.1032 0.	1040033043	0.20400137	0.2024	0.2039999991
0.005	0.10410568	0.1040 0.	1050057643	0.20500856	0.2030	0.20499999967

	X=0.3			X=0.4			X=0.5		
Т	FEM	Exact	FDM	FEM	Exact	FDM	FEM	Exact	FDM
	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution	Solution
0.001	0.30099992	0.3004 0	0.301000000	0.40100000	0.4002	0.401000000	0.5010000	1 0.5 0.5	01000000
0.002	0.30200008	0.3008 0	.302000000	0.40200001	0.4004	0.402000000	0.5020001	3 0.5 0.5	020000000
0.003	0.30300023	0.3012 0	.303000000	0.40300000	0.4006	0.403000000	0.5029999	5 0.5 0.5	030000000
0.004	0.30400020	0.3016 0	.304000000	0.40399998	0.4008	0.404000000	0.5040001	9 0.5 0.5	040000004
0.005	0.30499998	0.3020 0	.305000000	0.40499999	0.4010	0.405000000	0.5049995	1 0.5 0.5	050000039

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Table 2 Crank-Nicolson finite difference method solution for the water saturation $S_w(X, T)$ compared with the solution by FEM and Exact solution at the different time levels T for the distances X.



Fig. 6 Schematic representation of the solutions by Analytical Method (Exact solution), FEM and FDM.

VI. CONCLUSION

The tabular values and graphical presentation obtained by using Matlab coding for the finite difference scheme of the equation (1.17) by Crank-Nicolson method shows that the saturation of injected water is linearly increasing as distance X (average length of schematic finger) increases for different time T > 0 and also, it is linearly increasing for increasing time T for different length of the fingers. The comparative study shows that the numerical solution obtained using Crank-Nicolson scheme of finite difference method is very closed to the solutions obtained by finite element method and analytical method for different value of X and time T.

From the above discussion we have concluded that saturation of injected water is linearly increasing in instability phenomenon when water is injected at common interface, which serves the purpose of oil recovery in secondary oil recovery process which can displace the oil toward production well, kept in right side of common interface x = 0 and near to end x = L. This also concludes that the validity of the Crank-Nicolson finite difference scheme applied in secondary oil recovery process.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am deeply thankful to my mother institute Bhartiya Vidhya Bhavan, Ahmedabad Kendra for giving me an opportunity to pursue Ph. D. research work. I am very much indebted and grateful to my mathematical and spiritual master former Head of the Department Prof. V. R. Trivedi (Swamiji) for his invaluable and incredible inspiration, blessings and just being by my side all the time.

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