

Influence of the Chemical Composition of Geothermal Waters on the Solid Deposits Appeared at Well 507 Utilization

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Abstract: This paper presents the analysis made in order to get the chemical composition of geothermal waters from well 507 Livada. The aim of this work was to establish the chemical data of the water in the period 2002-2004. Based on the chemical composition by the use of Watch simulation program, they were estimated the minerals which can precipitate during production of the studied well.

Keywords: Geothermal water, carbonates deposition, Watch simulation program.

1. Introduction

Livada area located in the western part of Oradea town from administrative point of view belongs to Oradea. In Livada there is one production geothermal well, 507. This well was drilled in 1979 and it was opened in 1980. The geothermal reservoir is located in Cretacic and Jurassic limestones at depths of 1800 – 1824 m and 2040 – 2180 m.

The well 507 appeared to be almost non productive at the completion of drilling. It was, therefore, decided to attempt to stimulate the well. By acid stimulation the productivity of the well increased significantly. The production was 12 l/s with a water temperature of 95° C at the wellhead.

Since 1985 up to present geothermal water from this well has been used for heating houses and to provide domestic tapwater. It has been also utilized as industrial water in a fish farm, for heating a small greenhouse, for heating an industrial production room and as well as for a swimming pool. Nowadays the geothermal water from well 507 is used for heating houses and some commercial spaces and also in swimming pool. The maximum artesian flowrate recently recorded was 8 l/s and the wellhead temperature 90° C.

Geothermal water has a low mineralisation (less than 1 g/l), it does not content dissolved gases and presents a tendency to form carbonates deposition.

2. Experimental

Geothermal waters from the studied geothermal well were analysed by using standard analytical methods.

The results are presented in tables 1 - 3.

TABLE 1. Characteristics of geothermal water from Livada, well 507 in mg/l, in 2002

Depth [m]	1450-1600	Anions [mg/l]		Cations [mg/l]	
pH	6.0	Cl ⁻	169	Na ⁺	102.7
Mineralization	1630.0	SO ₄ ²⁻	188	K ⁺	42.7
		HCO ₃	590	Ca ²⁺	208.4
Total dissolved solids	960			Mg ²	95.5
Dissolved gases [mg/l]		O ₂		SiO ₂	131
		CO ₂	742	Phenols	0.002

TABLE 2. Characteristics of geothermal water from Livada, well 507 in mg/l, in 2003

Depth [m]	1450-1600	Anions [mg/l]		Cations [mg/l]	
pH	6.5	Cl ⁻	176	Na ⁺	86.19
Mineralization	1750.1	SO ₄ ²⁻	194	K ⁺	19.6
		HCO ₃	600.1	Ca ²⁺	194.4
Total dissolved solids	-			Mg ²	-
				Fe ²⁺	0.687
Dissolved gases [mg/l]		O ₂		SiO ₂	125.2
		CO ₂	788	NH ₄ ⁺	0.410

TABLE 3. Characteristics of geothermal water from Livada, well 507 in mg/l, in 2004

Depth [m]	1450-1600	Anions [mg/l]		Cations [mg/l]	
		pH	6.5	Cl ⁻	175.15
Mineralization	1801.0	SO ₄ ²⁻	208	K ⁺	39.2
		HCO ₃	610	Ca ²⁺	114
Total dissolved solids	1008			Mg ²⁺	98.76
				Fe ²⁺	0.020
Dissolved gases [mg/l]		O ₂		SiO ₂	120
		CO ₂	815	Phenols	0.004

3. Results and discussion

The results of the laboratory analyses have been calculated in the Watch simulation program at production temperature and by cooling in steps of 15° C.

In this way it is possible to predict the scaling potential. By the use of the program it was calculated the ionic activity Q corresponding to different minerals in the brine and it was compared with the theoretical solubility, K, of the respective minerals. When $Q < K$ the saturation index is negative and the solution is undersaturated with respect to the mineral considered.

When $Q > K$ the solution is supersaturated and when $Q = K$ the solution is exactly saturated or in equilibrium with the mineral in respect.

Changes in water by cooling within the system during utilization can be modelled and subsequent changes in chemistry evaluated. This is an important tool for the assessment of scaling problems.

The results obtained by the Watch program are presented in figures 1 – 3.

TABLE 4. Values of log. solubility products of minerals in deep water at different temperatures in 2002

Log Q/K	Temperature, °C				
	90	75	60	45	30
Anhydrite	-0.212	-0.629	-0.741	-0.848	-0.950
Calcite	0.583	-0.174	-0.371	-0.556	-0.722
Chalcedony	-0.026	0.390	0.533	0.689	0.860
Quartz	0.194	0.690	0.855	1.029	1.210
Wollastonite	-3.345	-5.124	-5.658	-6.205	-6.765
Talc	3.153	-0.802	-1.900	-2.975	-4.011
Chrysotile	0.890	-4.016	-5.469	-6.952	-8.461
Amorph. silica	-0.580	-0.304	-0.209	-0.106	0.008

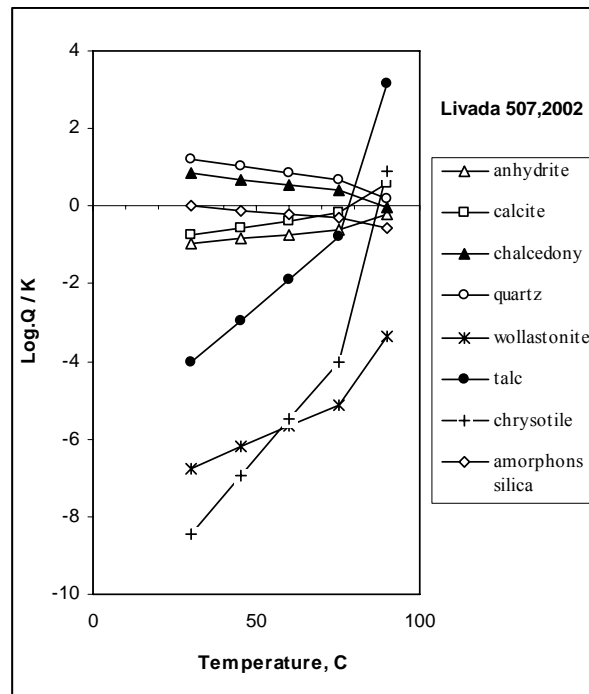


Figure 1. Log.Q/K vs temperature for selected water from well 507 Livada in 2002.

TABLE 5. Values of log. solubility products of minerals in deep water at different temperatures in 2003.

Log Q/K	Temperature, °C				
	92	75	60	45	30
Anhydrite	-0.022	-0.482	-0.616	-0.744	-0.865
Calcite	1.243	0.568	0.381	0.206	0.047
Chalcedony	-0.025	0.370	0.513	0.669	0.841
Quartz	0.199	0.670	0.835	1.009	1.191
Wollastonite	-2.569	-4.202	-4.726	-5.264	-5.816
Amorph. silica	-0.587	-0.324	-0.229	-0.126	-0.011

TABLE 6. Values of log. solubility products of minerals in deep water at different temperatures in 2004.

Log Q/K	Temperature. °C				
	89	75	60	45	30
Anhydrite	-0.529	-0.851	-0.954	-1.055	-1.152
Calcite	1.023	0.357	0.161	-0.022	-0.187
Chalcedony	-0.024	0.351	0.495	0.651	0.822
Quartz	0.205	0.651	0.817	0.991	1.172
Wollastonite	-2.864	-4.440	-4.973	-5.518	-6.077
Talc	5.709	2.088	0.967	-0.122	-1.167
Chrysotile	3.434	-1.049	-2.524	-4.022	-5.540
Amorph. Silica	-0.592	-0.343	-0.247	-0.144	-0.030

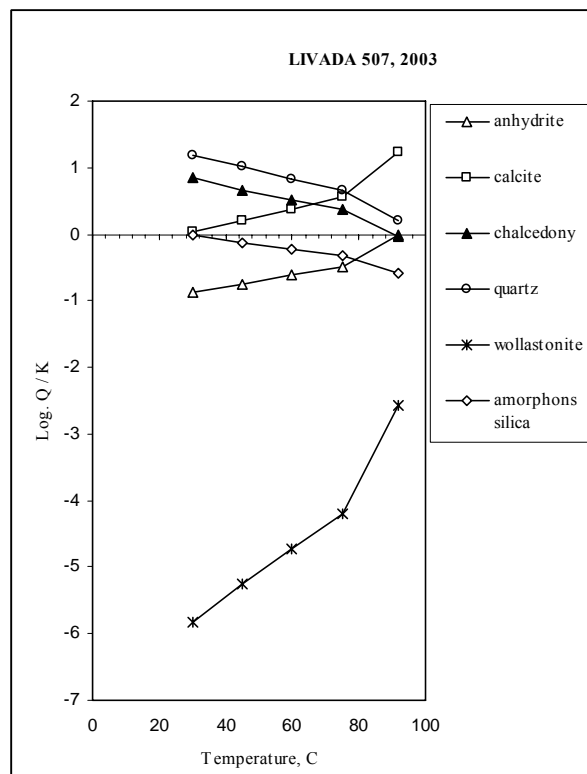


Figure 2. Log.Q/K vs temperature for selected water from well 507 Livada in 2003.

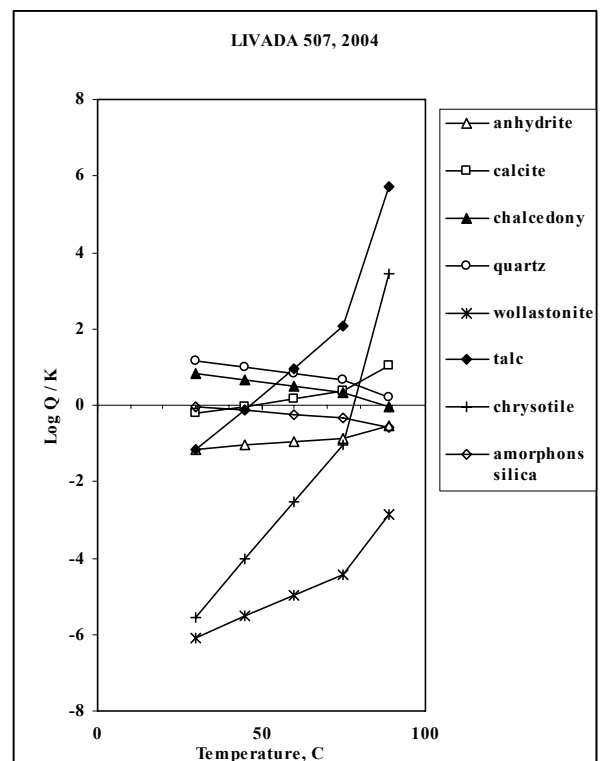


Figure 3. Log.Q/K vs temperature for selected water from well 507 Livada in 2004.

The saturation indexes were calculated for the following minerals: calcite, chalcedony, quartz, talc, chrysotile, amorphous silica.

4. Conclusions

Major problems have arisen in heating services due to mineral depositions.

The potential scaling problems of a geothermal utilization depend on the type of water.

Therefore chemical analysis of geothermal water from well 507 from Livada were made in order to predict possible scaling. A simulation program was used to estimate the depositions which can be formed at different temperatures reached during geothermal water utilization.

It is better to avoid scales before they occur.

In case of mineral depositions inside the pipes a mechanical removal is not convenient. Geothermal waters with a scaling tendency must be treated by chemical method in order to prevent the deposits. It is recommended to inject chemical inhibitors into the well.

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