

3.8 Behavior of DNAPLs

3.8.1 Vadose zone migration

- Similar characteristics to LNAPL but ↑ density → more penetrative
- Preferentially chooses large pores (water table)
- and continuous pore throat channels
- Displaces air and reaches capillary zone.
- Displaces water @ capillary zone.

3.8.2 Vertical movement in saturated zone

Static fluid: Hobson's Formula - defines required critical height for penetration, h_0

$$h_0 = +2\sigma \cos\theta \left(\frac{1}{r_t} - \frac{1}{r_p} \right) \quad r_p = \text{pore radius}$$

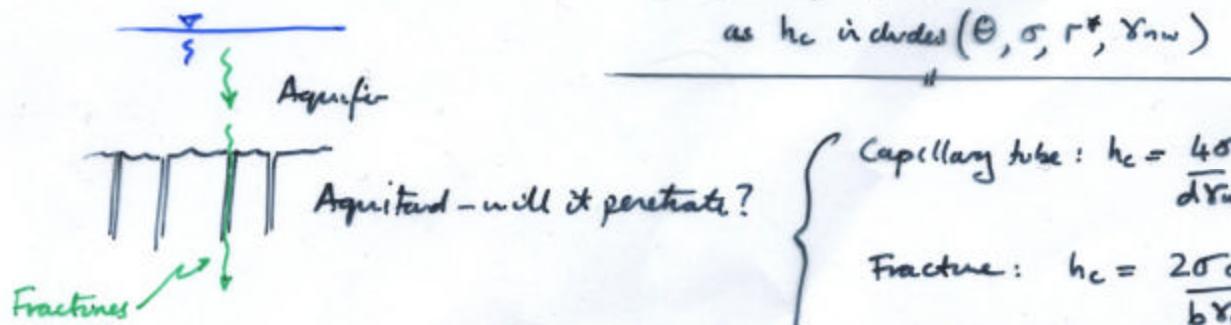
$$r_t = \text{throat radius}$$

$$h_c = \frac{P_b}{\gamma_0}$$

Rhombohedral packing, $r_p = .212d$
 $r_t = .077d$ } $d = \text{grain diameter}$

Same as $h = \frac{h_c}{(1 - \rho_w/\rho_nw)}$ if $h_c = \frac{2\sigma \cos\theta}{r^* \gamma_{nw}}$

as h_c includes $(\theta, \sigma, r^*, \gamma_{nw})$



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Capillary tube: } h_c = \frac{4\sigma}{d \gamma_{nw}} \cos\theta \\ \text{Fracture: } h_c = \frac{2\sigma \cos\theta}{b \gamma_{nw}} \end{array} \right.$$

Monitoring wells:

- Place at aquifer base to collect flow from mobile DNAPL -
- Well separate in well into individual components.
 - water at saturation (potentially).
- DNAPL level is intermediate within zone of mobile water and DNAPL
- Deep wells record false DNAPL depth.

Vertical distribution of DNAPL

Accumulation depends on grain size (actually pore size) distribution \rightarrow since controls capillary pressure distribution

Small pores/fractions: Low K \rightarrow thin pure DNAPL layer
thick DNAPL + water

Large pores/fractions: High K \rightarrow thick pure DNAPL layer
thin DNAPL + water.

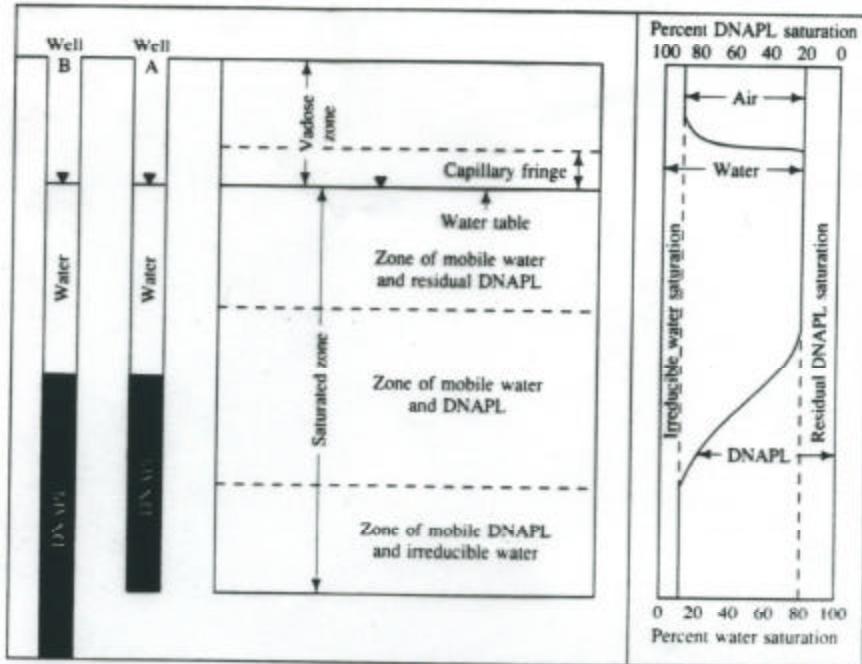


FIGURE 5.23 Zones of DNAPL and the relationship of mobile DNAPL and nonmobile DNAPL to the DNAPL saturation; relationship of mobile DNAPL thickness to thickness of DNAPL is measured in a monitoring well.

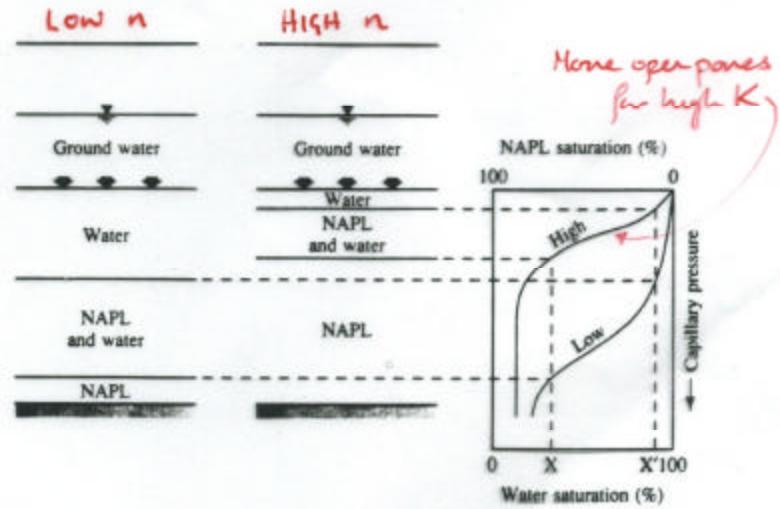
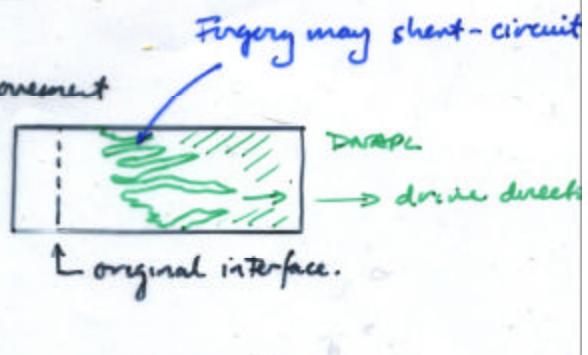


FIGURE 5.24 Effect of high and low permeability (and porosity) on the distribution of mobile DNAPL at the bottom of an aquifer; the arrows indicate level of original injection of the DNAPL. Source: J. F. Villaume, *Ground Water Monitoring Review* 5, no. 2 (1985):60-74. Copyright © 1985 Water Well Journal Publishing Co.

3.8.3. Horizontal Movement in Saturated Zone

- Difficult to estimate potential for movement
 - Water drive will produce fingering
- Classical fingering
- 1) Due to instability
 - 2) Accentuated by heterogeneity
 - heterogeneity has overriding effect in most shallow aquifers.



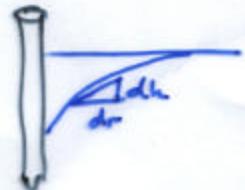
Gradient required to move DRAPE (horizontally)

$$\nabla p = \frac{20}{L_o (1/r_t - 1/r_p) r^*} \quad L_o = \text{length of continuous DRAPE phase}$$

r_t = throat ; r_p = pore radii

e.g. to determine radius of influence of capture well :

$$\frac{dp}{dr} = \frac{1}{r_w} \frac{dh}{dr}$$



Difficulty in estimating L_o .