

Interactive comment on “New Model of Reactive Transport in Single-Well Injection-Withdrawal Test with Aquitard Effect” by Quanrong Wang et al.

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General comments 1. This is an impressive mathematical work that involves several injection phases, adsorption (linear) and first-order degradation, the presence of aquitards, and the separation between mobile/immobile domains. The solution is fully analytical, just expressed in Laplace space (thus the need for inversion at the end). If the solution is analytical, what is the point to test it? The only reason is that some simplifications are involved. This is tested for example in Figure 2, showing limitations. Reply: Implemented. See Lines 291-296.

2. Assumptions are quite strong: - Homogeneity – it might also be valid for mild heterogeneity - The well extends all the thickness of the aquifer - Reactions: actually you only

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include linear sorption (K_d values) and first-order degradation (nmu values). This is a very small subset of reactions. Reply: Implemented. See Lines 95-99.

3. At the end there is a validation effort with real data. According to the authors, the new model performs better. Yes, it also has many more parameters, and so in a real case some model selection criteria should be performed to discriminate the “best” model. More, the authors provide just a single set of parameters, without any study of uncertainty in the parameters, or even the reason why these numbers were chosen and how they represent real physical quantities. Reply: Implemented. The real physical quantities and the uncertainty of the estimated parameters have been discussed. See Lines 405-413.

4. The mathematical work is really impressive, and I praise the authors for it, but in my opinion the resulting work can be hardly used with real data, and the problem would be better solved using a numerical model that can provide best fit, but also some uncertainty evaluation. Reply: Implemented. See Lines 83-91.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:

<https://www.hydrol-earth-syst-sci-discuss.net/hess-2019-699/hess-2019-699-AC4-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/hess-2019-699>, 2020.

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