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HYDRAULIC AND THERMAL IMPACT MODELLING AT THE SCALE OF THE GEOTHERMAL HEATING DOUBLET IN THE PARIS BASIN, FRANCE.

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ABSTRACT

The Paris Basin is extensively developed for the geothermal district heating (GDH) of approximately 150 000 dwellings. As of late 2010, thirty four GDH systems apply the doublet concept in the Paris suburban area and mine the heat of the Dogger reservoir, a limestone formation of Mid-Jurassic age at depths ranging from 1500 to 2000 m. As the brine is fully reinjected, cold water bodies progressively invade the reservoir around injector wells inducing both thermal and hydraulic interactions at the doublet scale.

The premature production well cooling and the sustainable development of the resource highlight two critical parameters, the thermal breakthrough time (t_B) and the extent of the cooled fluid bubble(S) respectively.

First, a set of benchtest simulations was launched to compare the sensitivities of t_B and S parameters to selected reservoir conceptual model typologies. These simulations were applied on a GDH doublet undergoing a suspected thermal breakthrough. Five reservoir modelling teams validated their “in house” simulations by (i) checking an analytical (Gringarten-Sauty, 1979) solution, and (ii) testing three candidate reservoir structures on the doublet considered remotely located (i.e. not interfering with nearby exploitations) for a first step. The outcome resulted in a rewarding insight into the variability of simulation outputs. An additional segment will enable the actors to compare their modelling expertise on the same doublet considered in interaction with the other GDH operations located in its environment.

Second, BRGM carried out a survey towards various rehabilitation schemes (a new doublet or a triplet) and their contribution toward sustainability standards. From a hypothetical, twenty five year life, doublet

simulation, an initial hydraulic/temperature field was derived.

Then, several new well locations were simulated and isotherms, alongside production well cooling kinetics, compared accordingly. A two-stage rehabilitation scheme, i.e. triplet then a new doublet, seems to reconcile the resource longevity and the economic demand. Further work is required to compare the different designs with a method integrating both the impact of the geothermal exploitation on the resource and the lifetime of the exploitation in a single mathematical factor.

THE GEOTHERMAL EXPLOITATION IN THE PARIS BASIN

Historical perspective

Geothermal development in the Paris Basin started in the early 1970s with the main target being the Dogger aquifer. Nearly all operations use the “doublet” technology consisting of a closed loop with one production well and one injection well.

Of the 55 doublet systems that have been implemented, most of these in the 1980s, 34 are still in operation, mainly in the Val de Marne and Seine St Denis area. (Lopez et al., 2010). With the current geothermal revival of the Paris Basin, the exploitation of the resource of the Dogger aquifer is facing new challenges (Hamm et al., 2009)

Issues linked to the doublet technology

Injection of the cooled brines creates a cold water body at the injection well and the resource has been cooled by the 30 years of reinjection.

The thermal breakthrough (T_b) is expected to occur in the coming years, inducing the decrease of the

production wells temperature (represented by the final production well temperature T_f) and as well as the recovered energy.

Most of the wells still operating are next to 30 years old. They would need to be restored or shut down for scaling and/or corrosion problems, implying the drilling of new ones. The rehabilitation scheme has to take into account the area (S) mined by the first doublet.

Management and the modelling tool

Modelling has been used for around 20 years to forecast the lifetime of operations and the impact of the development of new operations in the Dogger aquifer in the Paris Basin (Lopez et al., 2010).

One of the key points in the modelling process is the conceptual model of the reservoir. To evaluate the influence of the conceptual model on the extent of the cold water body and the production well temperature, 1 group of 5 teams of modellers coming from different organisations (university, private structures, public structure) has been created. This article presents the results of its work on the sensitivity of the modelling results (tb and S) to the reservoir conceptual model.

As the geothermal wells are getting older, the question of the schemes of rehabilitation is more and more sensitive. The BRGM carried out a study on a isolated doublet to evaluate the impacts of different rehabilitation schemes on the lifetime of the new exploitation (Tb) and the resource (S).

IMPACTS OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE CONCEPTUAL MODEL ON THE NUMERICAL RESULTS

Five teams participate to the benchmark with specific modelling software and an “in-house” method summarised in the following table.

Table 1: Definition of the modelling teams

| Group | Software | Numerical scheme |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| CFG (Comsol-1) | Comsol | Finite element |
| GPC-IP (Tough2-2) | Tough2 | Finite difference |
| Antea (Marthe-3) | Marthe | Finite volume |
| Mines ParisTech (Metis-4) | Metis | Finite element |
| BRGM (Marthe-5) | Marthe | Finite volume |

The numbers attached to the software names in the group column correspond to the team number.

The benchmark is cut into two parts, the first one checking the ability of the modelling software to reproduce an analytical solution (tb and T_f), the second part comparing the results (tb, T_f and S) of simulations based on different conceptual models.

The doublet of Alfortville is chosen as the reference doublet of the benchmark. The production well is called GAL2 and the injection well GAL1.

From this doublet is derived the structure of the reservoir and the exploitation sequence (timing of the different flowrates of water injected and produced, temperature injected)

Comparison between an analytical solution and the model results

Principle

The 1D analytical solution of Gringarten and Sauty is used to calculate the temperature at the production well $T_w(t)$.

$$\frac{T_0 - T_w(t)}{T_0 - T_i} = \int \operatorname{erfc} \left\{ \left[\frac{d(S_{\max} / D^2) *}{d(\psi / Q)} \right] \left[\lambda \left(t_d - \frac{d(S_{\max} / D^2)}{d(\psi / Q)} \right) \right]^{-1/2} \right\} d \left(\frac{\psi}{Q} \right)$$

Equation 1: Gringarten&Sauty equation

λ an adimensional parameter qualifying the heat exchange between the reservoir and the walls t_D the reduced time are defined by the following equations:

$$\lambda = \left(\frac{\rho_w C_w \rho_A C_A}{K_R \rho_R C_R} \right) \left(\frac{Qh}{D^2} \right)$$

$$t_D = \left(\frac{\rho_w C_w}{\rho_A C_A} \right) \left(\frac{Qt}{hD^2} \right)$$

Equation 2: definition of the adimensional parameters for the walls of the reservoir and the reduced time.

The aquifer heat capacity is calculated with the following equation:

$$\rho_A C_A = \theta \rho_w C_w + (1 - \theta) \rho_R C_R$$

Equation 3: definition of the aquifer heat capacity

Each team checks if its modelling tool can reproduce this analytical solution with the following hypothesis:

- The fluid is considered as pure water, viscosity and the fluid density are constant.
- The aquifer is considered as a one layer aquifer, with a 9m thick (h) productive layer, with an infinite horizontal extension. Two impervious layers are located at the top and the bottom of the productive layer
- The transmissivity of the aquifer is 5D, the porosity θ is 17%. The thermal conductivity of rock (K_r) and water (K_w) are

2.5 W/m/K and 0.6 W/m/K respectively. The thermal conductivity is neglected in the aquifer in the flow direction. The heat capacity of rock ($\rho_R C_R$) and water ($\rho_w C_w$) are 2.16 MJ/m³/K and 4.18 MJ/m³/K respectively

- The heat transport is convective in the aquifer and conductive in the vertical direction in the impervious layers.
- Initially, temperature is homogeneous between rock and water and the impervious layers are in thermal equilibrium with the aquifer at $T_0=75^\circ\text{C}$. During the injection, the equilibrium between rock and water is instantaneous.
- The dispersivity should be neglected but a minimal value for this dispersivity is accepted for ease of converging for the models
- The flowrate of injection and production is constant over 30 years at $Q=193 \text{ m}^3/\text{h}$. The injection temperature is also constant at $T_i=49^\circ\text{C}$.
- The production and the injection well are separated from $D=1130\text{m}$ from each other.

Results

Two parameters are compared between the analytical solution and the model solution: the final temperature at the production well (ΔT_f), the thermal breakthrough time (Δt_b). The thermal breakthrough is defined as the time when the first sign of temperature decreasing appears, that is when the production temperature reaches 74.9°C . The final production well temperature corresponds to the temperature at 30 years of simulation. The results are presented in the following table

Table2: Synthesis of the comparison between the simulation and the analytical results

| Team | Model tb (year) | model Tf ($^\circ\text{C}$) | Δt_b (year) | ΔT_f ($^\circ\text{C}$) |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Comsol-1 | 6 | 70.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Tough2-2 | 6 | 71.6 | 0 | 0.8 |
| Marthe-3 | 4 | 69.4 | 2 | 1.4 |
| Metis-4 | 6 | 70.8 | 0 | 0 |
| Marthe-5 | 4 | 70.8 | 2 | 0 |

The Tough2-2 simulation gives a final production temperature above the analytical solution, due to the variation of viscosity that has been included in the Tough2 software.

The Marthe-3 simulation under estimates the final temperature compare to the Marthe-5 simulation. A finer vertical discretisation in the Marthe-5 simulation gives a better approximation of the heat transfers between the walls and the reservoir. Nevertheless, the thermal breakthrough of the Marthe-3 and -5 simulations occurs earlier than the analytical solution, due to the calculation of the equivalent vertical conductivity that underestimates the heat transfers between the walls and the reservoir. The Comsol-1 and Metis-4 simulations forecast the same temperature variation, and hence the same final temperature as the analytical solution, which means the physical representation of the reservoir is close to that of the analytical solution and the thermal role of the walls is correctly taken into account.

The following graphic displays the different production temperature curves which bound the analytical solution. The Marthe-5 meanT curve displays the evolution of the temperature on the whole thickness of the reservoir, whereas the Marthe-5 curve represents the temperature in the first layer just below the wall.

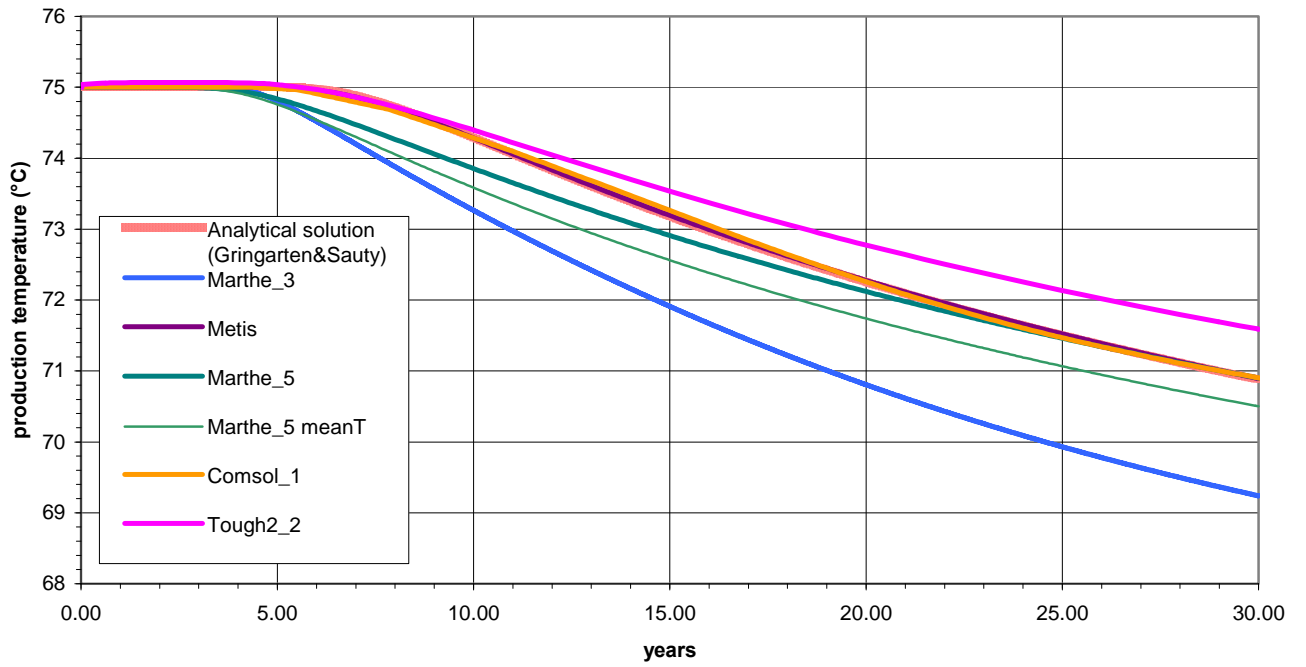


Figure 1: Production temperature curves of the different simulations compared to the analytical results

Comparison between the thermal and hydraulic results with regards to the conceptual model

Principle

The exploitation sequence is common as indicated in the following table.

Table 3: Production and injection sequence for the 30 years of simulation

| | Flowrate (m3/h) | Injection temperature (°C) |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Winter (8 months) | 231 | 44 |
| Summer (4 months) | 93 | 60 |

The different conceptual models tested are based on the flowmeters of GAL1 and GAL2 and vary the number and the thickness of the productive layers and impervious interstrata in the reservoir. Three types of conceptual models are tested as described in the following table.

Table 4: The one-layer, multi-layer and sandwich conceptual models along with their sub models (each one has a particular structure)

| Conceptual model | Software | Structure of the reservoir (productive layer and impervious interstrata) |
|------------------------|----------|--|
| 1 layer | Comsol | 1 productive (9m) |
| | | 1 productive (17m) |
| | | 1 productive (21m) |
| | Metis | 1 productive (9.4m) |
| | | 1 productive (8.2m) |
| | | 1 productive (17m) |
| sandwich homogeneous | Tough2 | 1 productive (19.3m) |
| | | 2 productive (4.5 m et 4.5m), 1 interstrata |
| sandwich heterogeneous | Marthe | 2 productive (4.5m et 4.5m), 1 interstrata |
| multi layer | Tough2 | 3 productive (4.5m, 2.9m et 1.6m), 2 interstrata |
| | Marthe | 2 productive (8m et 5m), 1 interstrata |
| | Metis | GAL1: 7 productive (1.5m, 2.3m, 0.7m, 1.6m, 0.7m, 1.5m, 1.1m), 3 interstrata |
| | Metis | GAL2: 6 productive (0.9m, 1m, 1.5m, 1m, 1.9m et 1.9m), 5 interstrata |

The output of each model are the production well temperatures over the 30 years of simulation and the characteristic dimensions of the cooled water body at 5 years, 10, years, 20 years and 30 years of simulation as shown on the figure below.

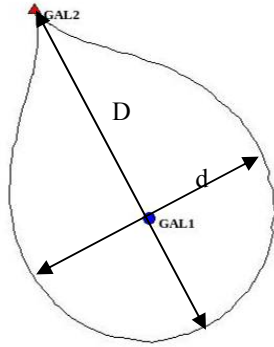


Figure 2: Characteristic dimensions of the 72°C isotherm

Construction of the different conceptual model

Two ways of construction are used for the one layer model:

- Based on one flowmeter, the productive layers are put together and their thickness is summed into one layer.
- The top of the upper productive layer and the bottom of the lowest productive layer delineate the model layer.

The interstrata which act as a thermal buffer are not considered

Two types of multilayer model are studied:

- The productive layers on a flowmeter are gathered into 3 or 2 productive layers according to their contribution to the total flowrate. They are separated by impervious interstrata (Tough2 and Marthe)
- Each productive layer appearing on the flowmeter is represented in the model with the same location and thickness (Metis)

The construction of the sandwich conceptual model follows several steps as first described by GPC-IP (Ungemach et al, 2009):

- the productive layers are cumulated together into one global productive layer

- the impervious interstrata layers acting as a storage of heat are cumulated into one buffer layer
- the global productive layer is split into two symmetric parts by this buffer zone

The homogeneous sandwich model is a tabular model. For the heterogeneous sandwich model, the horizontal structure is interpolated between wells in order to account for lateral variability.

Results

The evolution of the production temperature is compared for each type of conceptual model and then between the three types of conceptual model.

In the comparison tables, the range of values for the thermal breakthrough time and the final production temperature is given in the t_b and T_f columns.

- For the one layer conceptual models, the variation Δt_b for t_b is 5 years and 1.5°C for ΔT_f as shown on the table 5.

Table 5: ranges for t_b and T_f for the one layer conceptual model

| Conceptual model | Curve | Structure | t_b (years) | T_f (°C) |
|------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| 1 layer | Comsol-1 9m | 1 productive (9m) | 6.5 to 11.5 | 70 to 71.5 |
| | Metis-4 9.4m | 1 productive (9.4m) | | |
| | Metis-4 8.2m | 1 productive (8.2m) | | |
| | Metis-4 17m | 1 productive (17m) | | |
| | Metis-4 19.3m | 1 productive (19.3m) | | |

The bottom curve is the 8.2m model and the top curve is the 19.3m model as shown on the graphic 2. The thinner the section for the waterflow, the earlier the thermal breakthrough occurs. These results confirm that the model only based on the thickness of the productive layers is the most pessimistic model in terms of t_b and T_f .

The 9m layer model is studied by two simulations (Metis-4 and Comsol-1). The thermal breakthrough occurs approximately at the same time but production temperature is decreasing slower in the model Comsol-1 inducing a T_f greater by 1°C. This difference is not fully understood, it may come from the way the thermal dispersivity is taken into account in the model.

The curve of the Metis-4 9.4m simulation lays under the analytical solution at the end of the simulation. As the thermal conduction in the reservoir is included in the model solution, the final temperature production is supposed to be lower with this solution than for the analytical one.

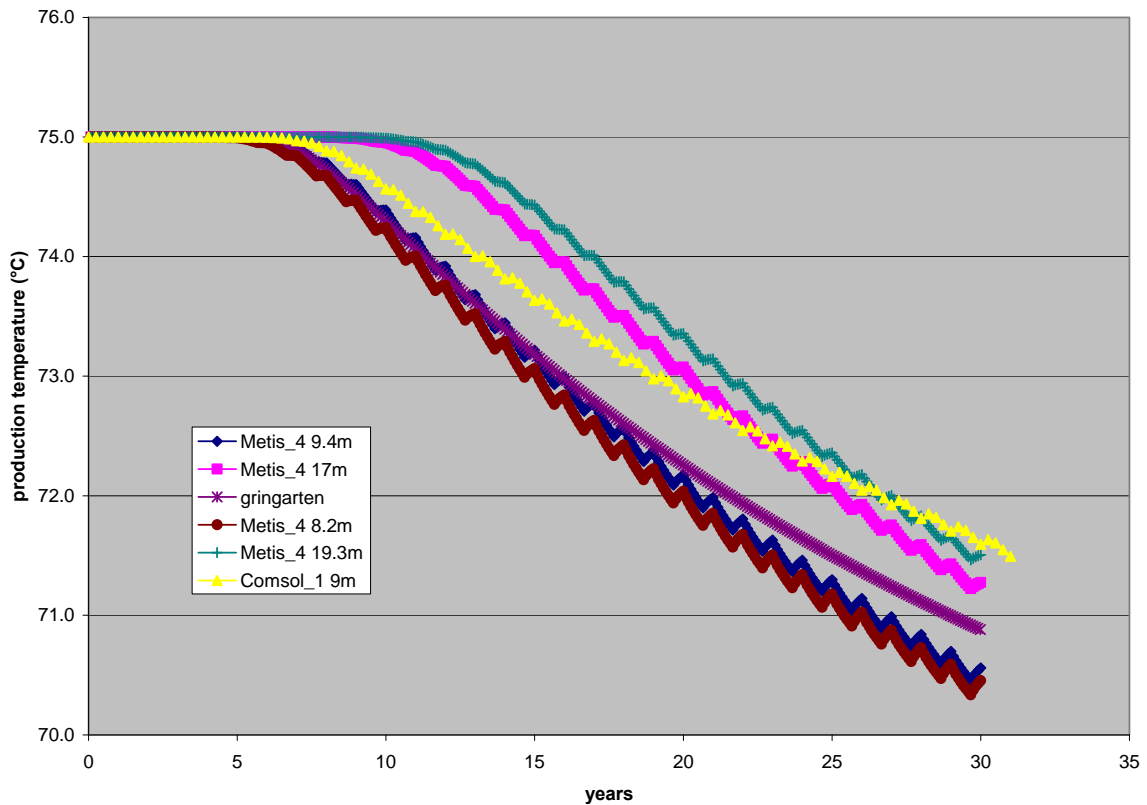


Figure 3: Variability of the production temperature curves for the one layer conceptual model

- For the multi layer conceptual model, Δt_b is 1 year and ΔT_f is 3.5°C as shown on the table 6.

Despite the thermal breakthrough is relatively equivalent for each simulation, the range for the final production temperature is wider. The slope of the temperature curve gets smaller with the number of layers in the model. The results of the multi layer models seem very dependent of the layering of the reservoir, especially when some layers are more hydraulically conductive than others. Vertical

temperature cross-sections in the Metis-4 GAL1 and GAL2 simulations (Figure 3) show the high conductive layers being rapidly warmed by the interstrata during the low flowrate and higher injection temperature period. That phenomenon slows down the cooled body progression. Other Metis-4 GAL1 and GAL2 simulations demonstrate this phenomenon doesn't occur with a constant Q and T_{inj} sequence.

Table 6: ranges for t_b and T_f for the multi layer conceptual model

| Conceptual model | Curve | Structure | t_b (years) | T_f (°C) |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| multi layer | Tough2-2 | 3 productive | 8 to 9 | 71 to 74.5 |
| | Marthe-5 | 2 productive | | |
| | Metis-4 GAL1 | 7 productive | | |
| | Metis-4 GAL2 | 6 productive | | |

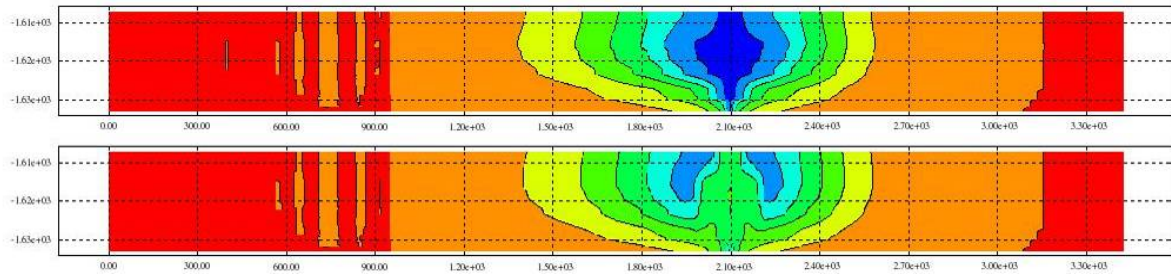


Figure 4: Heating of the GAL2 reservoir between the end of the winter period (top figure) and the end of the summer period (bottom figure)

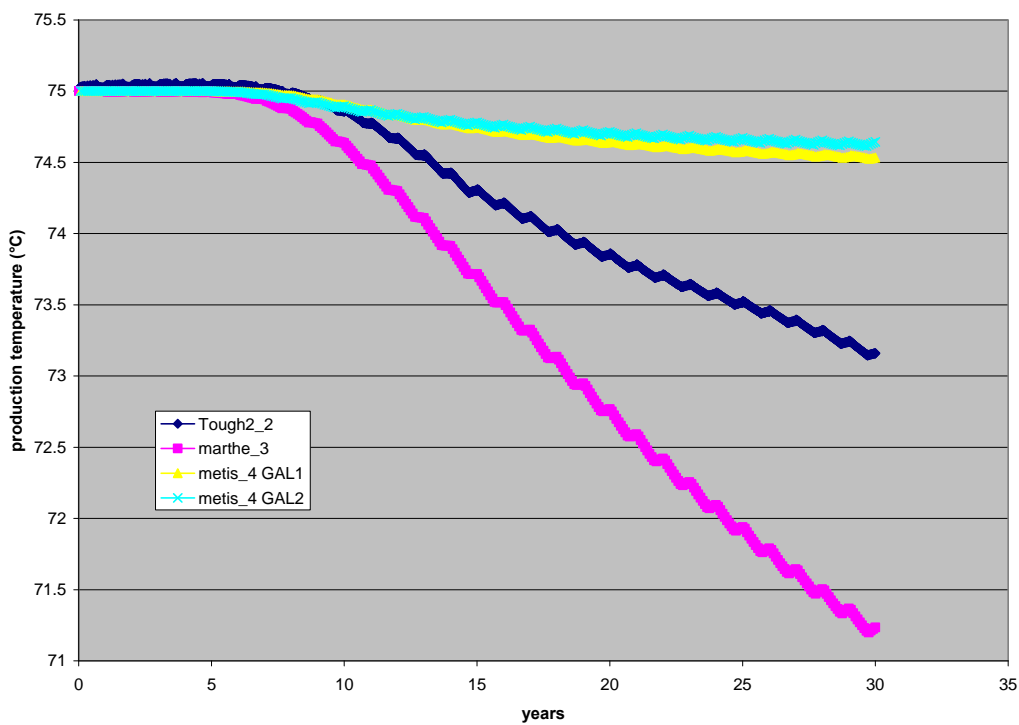


Figure 5: Variability of the results for the multi layer model

- For the sandwich conceptual model, the t_b variation is 2 years and the T_f variation is $0.5\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ as shown on the following table.

The homogeneous model is optimistic with the t_b occurring at 10 years. In the heterogeneous model, some layers have a higher transmissivity and may allow the cooled front to arrive faster than in the homogeneous model.

Table 7: ranges for t_b and T_f for the sandwich conceptual model

| Conceptual model | Curve | Structure | t_b (years) | T_f ($^\circ\text{C}$) |
|------------------------|----------|--------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| sandwich homogeneous | Tough2-2 | 2 productive | 8 to 10 | 72 to 72.5 |
| sandwich heterogeneous | Marthe-5 | 2 productive | | |

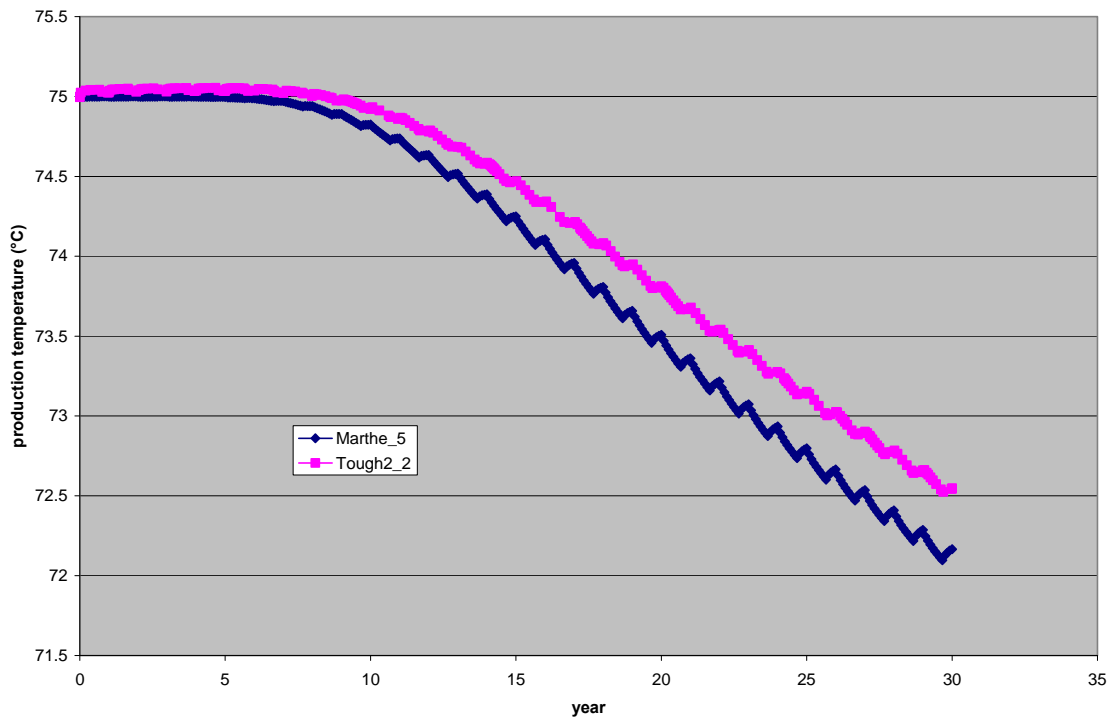


Figure 6: Variability of the results for the sandwich model

- Comparing the three types of conceptual model (table 7), the one layer model seems the most sensitive for t_b and the multi layer model the most sensitive for the final production temperature. The sandwich model seems to be a good trade off between t_b and T_f .

Table 8: Comparison of the variability of the results between the three types of conceptual model

| Conceptual model | Δt_b (years) | ΔT_f (°C) |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| one layer | 5 | 1.5 |
| multi layer | 1 | 3.5 |
| sandwich | 2 | 0.5 |

Looking at the graphic 5, the range of the simulation results is 5 years for t_b and 4.5°C for T_f . This variability of the simulation results is higher than expected from different conceptual models derived from 1 case study.

The different conceptual models are gathered into three families according to the shape of the curves:

- 1- The one layer model taking into account only the productive layers (Metis 9.4m and 8.2m). The buffer role of the interstrata is neglected.
- 2- The sandwich models (marthe and tough2), the one layer models whose thickness includes the interstrata (metis 17m and

19.3m) and the coarse multilayered models (Tough multilayer, marthe multilayer). The buffer role of the interstrata is thermally represented in the sandwich and multilayer models (heat transfer between the impervious interstrata and the aquifer slows the progression of the thermal front) and hydraulically represented in the one layer models (the thicker productive layer induces a slower velocity of the cooled particles).

- 3- The multi layer models representing the layering of the flowmeters (metis Gal1 and Gal2). These finely layered models propagate the wells information at the doublet scale, the heat exchange surface is maximum between the productive layers and the interstrata. The decreasing in temperature is thus much slower than for the other models.

Given this wide range of results, another set of simulations were launched with a mean flowrate and temperature injection sequence for each of the models. The results are similar to the variable sequences for first and second family but the results for the third family are similar to the second family. It seems the variability of the results for the finely layered models is also linked to the exploitation sequence.

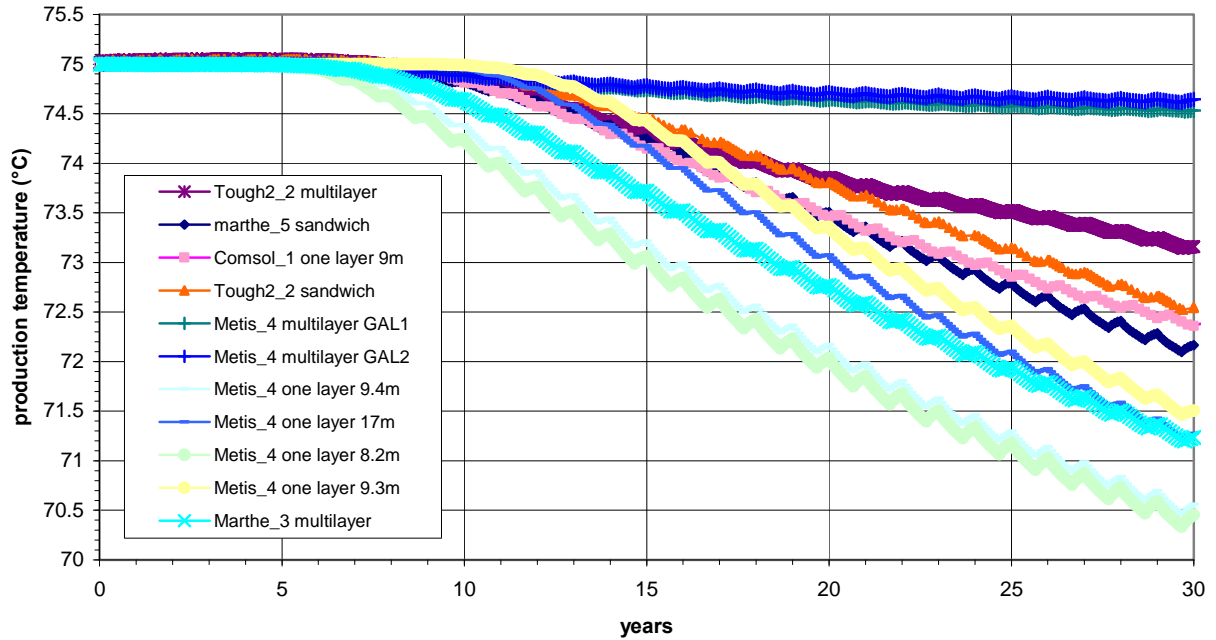


Figure 7: sensitivity of the results for the three types of models

- The last output of the simulation is the dimension of the cooled water body. The characteristic dimensions are summarised in the following tables.

Table 9: longitudinal extension of the cooled water body for the different conceptual models

| Conceptual model | | D (lengthwise extension in m) | | | | Mean D (m) | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years |
| 1 layer | 1 productive (9m) | 1040 | 1414 | 1816 | 1903 | 1279 | 1479 | 1751 | 1864 |
| | 1 productive (17m) | 855 | 1167 | 1724 | 1840 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (21m) | 790 | 1077 | 1551 | 1813 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (9.4m) | 1597 | 1706 | 1811 | 1900 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (8.2m) | 1611 | 1711 | 1831 | 1909 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (17m) | 1537 | 1647 | 1776 | 1850 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (19.3m) | 1525 | 1633 | 1749 | 1833 | | | | |
| sandwich | homogeneous | 990 | 1313 | 1763 | 1862 | 783 | 1175 | 1772 | 1866 |
| | heterogeneous | 1010 | 1360 | 1780 | 1870 | | | | |
| multi layer | 3 productive | 1052 | 1408 | 1768 | 1842 | 1297 | 1523 | 1723 | 1769 |
| | 2 productive | 1015 | 1435 | 1790 | 1875 | | | | |
| | 7 productive | 1556 | 1624 | 1672 | 1688 | | | | |
| | 6 productvie | 1564 | 1626 | 1660 | 1670 | | | | |

Table 10: lateral dimension of the cooled water body

| | | d (transverse extension in m) | | | | Mean d (m) | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years |
| Conceptual model | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 layer | 1 productive (9m) | 960 | 1192 | 1440 | 1606 | 890 | 1122 | 1387 | 1556 |
| | 1 productive (17m) | 806 | 1030 | 1324 | 1484 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (21m) | 760 | 976 | 1256 | 1462 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (9.4m) | 996 | 1238 | 1480 | 1638 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (8.2m) | 1012 | 1245 | 1493 | 1649 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (17m) | 867 | 1107 | 1370 | 1547 | | | | |
| | 1 productive (19.3m) | 829 | 1064 | 1344 | 1504 | | | | |
| sandwich | homogeneous | 911 | 1127 | 1387 | 1554 | 906 | 1114 | 1364 | 1517 |
| | heterogeneous | 900 | 1100 | 1340 | 1480 | | | | |
| multi layer | 3 productive | 959 | 1179 | 1395 | 1519 | 934 | 1118 | 1282 | 1371 |
| | 2 productive | 920 | 1180 | 1450 | 1620 | | | | |
| | 7 productive | 917 | 1056 | 1153 | 1190 | | | | |
| | 6 productive | 939 | 1056 | 1128 | 1128 | | | | |

The means of the characteristic dimensions over the simulation time are in the same range of value for the different models. They increase rapidly during the first 20 years and then the rate of progression diminishes.

The table 9 below calculates the representative deviation for 1 type of conceptual model for the 4 output times. This deviation corresponds to the error in percentage on the mean and represents the variability of the results. Thus a decreasing error means the dispersion of the different values tend to decrease.

For the longitudinal length, the error decreases with time for all the models. For the lateral length, the error decreases and stabilizes except in the case of the multilayer model where it increases. This

characteristic length is more sensitive to the layering of the model than the longitudinal one because of the strong influence of the production well in the lengthwise direction. As for the temperature curve for the multilayer models, the evolution of the transversal length of the cooled water body is slower for the fine layered models than for the 2 layers models.

Nevertheless, simulations with a constant flowrate and temperature injection sequence give an evolution similar for all the models. This high dispersion phenomenon for the multilayer models seems thus linked to the flowrate and injection temperature sequence: the more the model tries to represent all the productive layers, the more sensitive it is to the flowrate and injection temperature sequence

Table 11: sensitivity of the cooled water body dimension to the conceptual model

| Model | Variance D (m) | | | | Corresponding error on the mean (+/-) | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years |
| 1 layer | 368 | 265 | 96 | 39 | 29% | 18% | 5% | 2% |
| sandwich | 321 | 262 | 12 | 6 | 41% | 22% | 1% | 0.3% |
| multilayer | 304 | 118 | 66 | 105 | 23% | 8% | 4% | 6% |

| Model | Variance d (m) | | | | Corresponding error on the mean (+/-) | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years | 5 years | 10 years | 20 years | 30 years |
| 1 layer | 99 | 106 | 88 | 76 | 11% | 9% | 6% | 5% |
| sandwich | 8 | 19 | 33 | 52 | 1% | 2% | 2% | 3% |
| multilayer | 12 | 72 | 179 | 259 | 1% | 6% | 14% | 19% |

Conclusion

The benchtest realised on one particular geothermal doublet in the Val de Marne department in the Paris Basin was a good method to compare different approach of modelling used by different groups who have a strong experience in modelling in the Paris Basin.

The comparison of the model solutions with an analytical solution highlighted the difficulty to reproduce restrictive conceptual model conditions.

The second part of the exercise pointed out the different conceptual models that can be derived from

two flowmeters of one geothermal wells doublet and how they impact on the predicted thermal breakthrough time and production well temperature. The different conceptual models are not equivalent especially when using precise production sequences and it may be recommended to simulate different conceptual models of reservoir to get a range of predictive results. Further work is planned to realise the same exercise but on the doublet taken in its environment, and to compare the modelling results with temperature records taken in the field.

IMPACT OF THE SCHEME OF RENOVATION ON THE RESOURCE AND THE EXPLOITATION

The great majority of existing geothermal doublets in the Paris basin will need to be renovated because of scaling or corrosion over the years. This rehabilitation can be declined in different types: a new doublet, a triplet or a triplet followed by a new doublet. The triplet scheme means a new production well is drilled and the former production well is turned in an injection well.

The choice of the type of rehabilitation is a trade off between economical reasons and thermal and hydraulic impacts on the resource and the exploitation.

To compare the impacts of the different rehabilitations, various schemes were modelled by BRGM with Marthe with the hypothesis of an isolated exploitation.

20 years of exploitation

Different schemes varying wells locations are studied for each type of rehabilitation.

- For the doublet rehabilitation, two types of configurations are simulated:
 - the new injector well (I1) is located next to the initial injector and the new production well (P1) is displaced with an angle of 45° or 90° with regards to the drilling platform

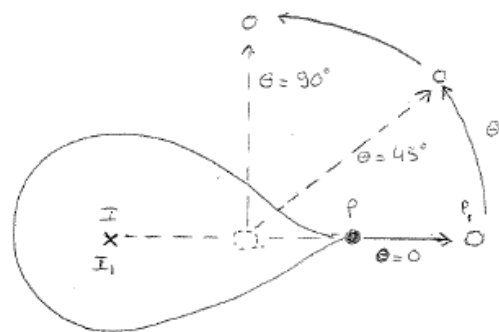


Figure 8: Various locations for the doublet rehabilitation: I1 next to I, P1 moves

Method used for the comparison of the different scheme

Theoretical doublet

A first 25 years hypothetical doublet (production well P and injection well I) is modelled to derive the initial thermal and hydraulic field. The mean annual flowrate is 200 m³/h and the injection temperature 40°C.

- the new wells (I1 and P1) are displaced with two angles (45° and 90°) and perpendicular to the former doublet axis

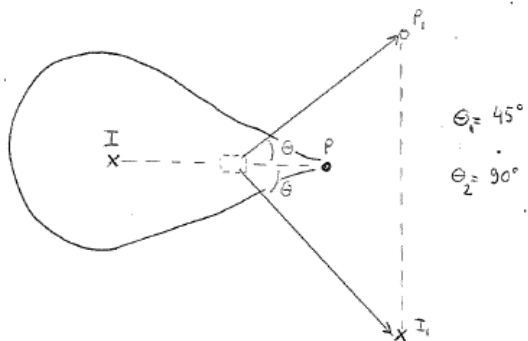


Figure 9: Various locations for the doublet rehabilitation (I1 and P1 move perpendicular to the first implantation)

- For the triplet rehabilitation, I1 is set next to the initial injection well, P is changed into an injection well (I2), the new production well P1 moves with 3 angles (45°, 60° and 90°)

Two flowrate sequences on the injector wells are simulated in two ways by dividing the total injection flowrate Q.

- 1/2Q on I1 and 1/2Q on I2
- 2/3Q on I1 and 1/3 Q on I2

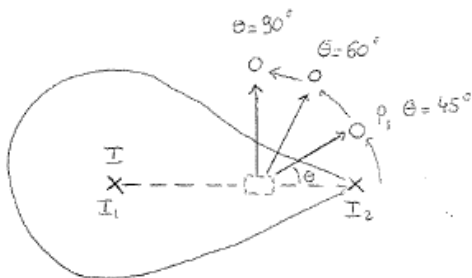


Figure 10: Various locations for the triplet rehabilitation (P1 moves at various angle, I1 takes place next to I and P is changed into I2)

For the triplet then doublet rehabilitation, the simulation follows two steps:

The initial doublet evolves for 10 years into a triplet with P1 at 60° from I2, 2/3Q on I1 and 1/3 on I2.

A new injection well I3 is set at 60° from I2 symmetrically to the old doublet axis with the total flowrate for 30 years.

Temperature at the production well

The different thermal breakthrough time and production temperature curves are compared. This two parameters are taken as representative of the longevity of the exploitation.

Conceptual model of the Dogger aquifer

The reservoir is represented by a one layer homogeneous model with one 20m thick productive layer between the impervious roof and wall that is a representative thickness in Dogger aquifer (Menjoo et al., 1996). As a horizontal symmetrical axis is set in the middle of the productive layer, the simulated productive layer is 10m thick, the upper impervious layer is 1143m thick.

Mean characteristic parameters for the reservoir:

- Porosity=15%
- Permeability=3 Darcy
- Storage coefficient : $1e-06 \text{ m}^{-1}$
- Lengthwise and transverse thermal dispersivity: 20m and 7.5m respectively.
- Thermal conductivity of the rock: $2.5 \text{ W/m}^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Volumic heat capacity of the rock: $2 \text{ MJ/m}^3/\text{C}^{\circ}$

Wall and roof parameters

- Porosity=1%
- Permeability = $0.01 \mu\text{Darcy}$
- Thermal conductivity of the rock: $2.5 \text{ W/m}^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Volumic Heat capacity of the rock: $2 \text{ MJ/m}^3/\text{C}^{\circ}$

Fluid parameters

- Fluid temperature in the reservoir: 70°C
- Viscosity of the fluid: 0.4 cp

Discussions around the production well temperature

Doublet rehabilitation

The optimum rehabilitation scheme is the case with the new wells located 45° from the initial well in the perpendicular direction. The decrease in temperature is 1.5°C compare to the other schemes with 2°C , 2.5°C , 3.5°C , 4°C and 6°C .

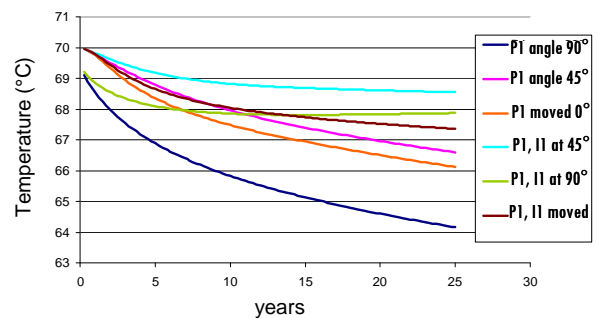


Figure 11: Production well (P1) temperature for the different doublet renovation schemes

Triplet rehabilitation

In this case, the optimum rehabilitation scheme is obtained for the new production well located 60° from the former production well and with a flowrate repartition between injectors of 2/3 on I1 and 1/3 on I2

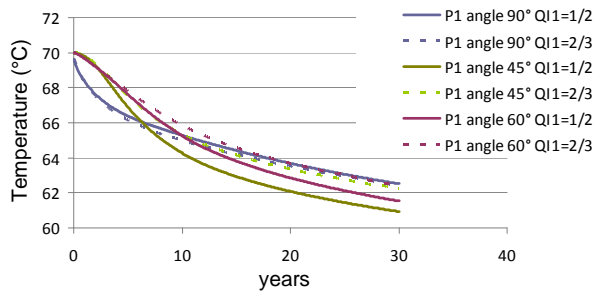


Figure 12: Production well (P1) temperature for the different triplet renovation scheme

Conclusion: production versus resource

The transition solution of rehabilitation with a triplet followed by a doublet seems to be a trade off between financial investment, production sustainability and resource preservation.

But further studies are compulsory to calculate the quantity of energy related to the decreasing temperature rate and the cooled surface impacted by the exploitation.

The cooled body surface has been calculated for all the scenarii simulated but the calculation of a ratio with the thermal quantity of energy lost at the production well versus the cooled surface may enable to rapidly compare the rehabilitation schemes. It may also permit to change the weight of one of the two parameters to base a choice on different conditions.

Besides these rehabilitation schemes were studied for the case of an isolated doublet, in the future real rehabilitations should be studied by including the hydraulic and thermal environment of the doublet.

Triplet- double rehabilitation

According to the temperature curves, the transitional stage of the triplet before the new doublet stage slows down and stabilizes the decreasing in temperature at the production well compare to a triplet solution and lead to a final production well temperature similar to the doublet solution

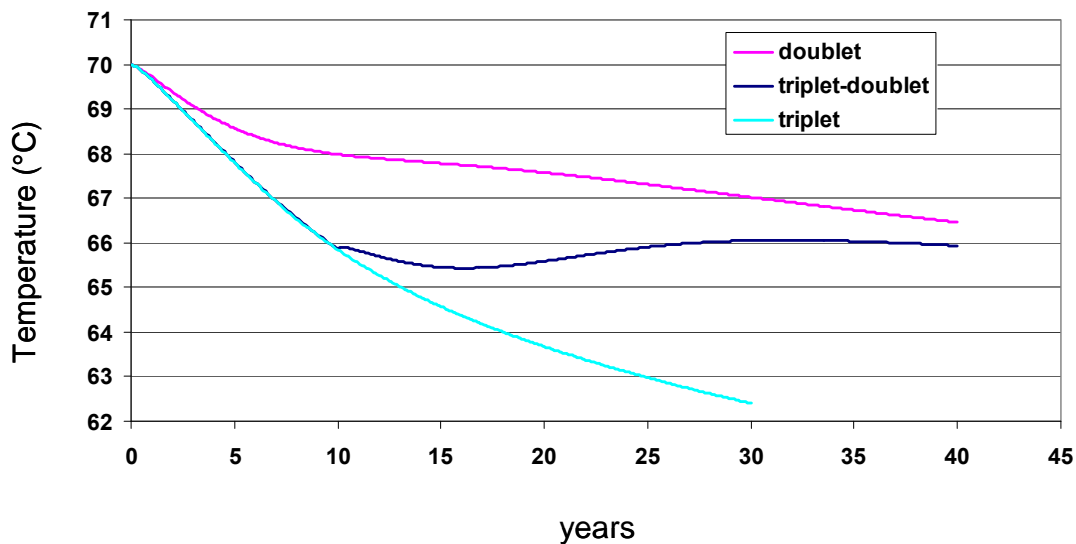


Figure 13: Production well temperature for the three types of rehabilitation

CONCLUSION

Two types of work have been carried out at the doublet scale: one by five modelling teams on the sensibility of the modelling results to the conceptual model of the reservoir for one particular geothermal doublet, another by BRGM on the optimisation of the location of the new wells in case of rehabilitation for a specific one layer model. For both the studies, the reservoir model is based on the continuity principle.

As the pressure in the Dogger aquifer at the Val de Marne and Seine St Denis scale is relatively homogeneous and tends to prove the hydraulic continuity of the reservoir, the Dogger aquifer is modelled as a tabular model where the productive layers are continued between wells. A study on the continuity of the productive layers in the Dogger reservoir is to be carried out this year by the BRGM and a work team with inter doublet hydrogeological tests.

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