American Journal of Engineering Research (AJER)
e-ISSN : 2320-0847 p-ISSN : 2320-0936
Volume-4, Issue-3, pp-62-69
www.ajer.org

Research Paper Open Access

# Field Study of Drilling Bits Performance Optimization Using a Computer Model.

Oriji, A. Boniface[1], Zakka Bala[2] & Akintola Sarah. A[3]

[1]*Department of Petroleum Engineering University of Port-Harcourt Nigeria*

[2,3]*Department of Petroleum Engineering University of Ibadan Nigeria*

***ABSTRACT:*** *One of the major problems facing drilling operations is the performance of the drilling Bits. The ability of the Bit to crush the rock and the removal of the crushed rock from the wellbore effectively. It is necessary to understand the fundamental difference in Bit design for different rock textures because many variables tend to affect Bit optimization, particularly the type of formations, economics and Bit selection. However, the cost of drilling a well has a considerable effect on the selection and the design of a particular Bit, therefore this paper focuses on the development of a model that will predict future Bit performance and optimization for actual well design and construction. The variables to optimize Bit performance provide means of handling cost estimation hence the model becomes more realistic and dynamic in its application. The input variables and control factors for this model are stretched to minimize cost and maximize performance. The cost per foot and the break even calculations were done using data from the reference well X14 and also the evaluation well X35 from a field-X in the Niger Delta region. A Visual Basic dot Net program model was developed, tested and validated with the real field data to know its accuracy. The model interface shows the detailed application of the Bits in validating the data to provide the equivalent results for the five different Bits. Each set of the Bit record was ran separately on the software and the results for each application developed for comparison. In the software, data application were grouped into two distinct methods namely; rentals method and historical method. Under the rentals method, data were uploaded into the software and ran to generate results while the historical method was basically used for model prediction. The breakeven analysis provided a technique for calculating the performance required for an alternative Bit type to match the cost per foot of the current Bit. Based on the model results , Hughes Tungsten Carbide (HTC) Bit and Security Bit(SEC) used to drill well X14 and X35 were well optimized and should be encouraged in drilling wells within the area.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The increasing demand for fossil fuel has intensified the search for hydrocarbon reservoirs. The world has to move on the daily energy derived from processing of the content of the reservoir. This search has lead to high cost of drilling oil and gas wells. The drilling Bit performance optimization depends on the type of formation, drilling fluids, pore pressure and engineering variables but with a direct relationship with the drilling cost per footage. The drilling industry has seen tremendous improvements in drill Bit development and manufacturing and technological advancement is being made by Bit manufacturers in order to meet the continuously changing and more demanding needs of the operators. However, the evaluation of drilling Bit performance plays an important role in the oil and gas drilling operation.

## II. CASE STUDY DEVELOPMENT OF FIELD -X

A case study of the Bits was from the offset well X14 in field- X used to evaluate well X35 that was subsequently drilled. The offset well X14 and the evaluation well X35 were drilled 5 kilometers apart both with formation intervals of interest as basically alternating shale and sharp sand, sandstone and silt stone. The field-X Bit records are as shown in tables (1-5), which were ran on trials in the different intervals to see their performances. The cost per foot calculation were used to analyze the performance of the Bits for the wells while the breakeven method were used to analyze the Bits on trial in order to know the performance of each of the Bit. In analyzing the Bits used to drill well X14. Four SEC Bits drilled from 6214-7789 ft for a footage of 1895ft in 65 hours with an average cost per foot drilled of $ 49.43/ft. Three HTC Bits drilled well X14 from 3124ft to 5167ft for a footage of 3094ft in 48 hours with an average cost per foot of $19.09/ft. The REED Bit made a footage of 99ft in 19 hours with an average cost per foot of $42.32/ft. The SEC Bit drilled well X35 from 8607- 10057ft for a footage of 2050ft in 41 hours with an average cost per foot of $32.98/ft. While the HTC Bit drilled well X35 from 5031-8007ft for a footage of 3716ft in 48 hourrs with an average cost per foot $17.31/ft. From the analysis, the SEC Bit and the HTC Bit in well X35 drilled more footage with less time in the well than that of the HTC Bit and SEC bit in well X14.

**Table 1: SEC. Bits Record for the Interval in Well X14.**

| BIT NO | TYPES/ MAKE | BIT COST ($) | FOOTAGE DRILLED (FT) | ROTATION TIME (HOUR) | FOOT /HOUR (FT) | TRIP TIME (HOUR) | BIT SIZE (INCHES) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | SEC | 3560 | 335 | 12 | 27.9 | 6.2 | 12 ¼ |
| 8 | SEC | 3560 | 670 | 21 | 31.9 | 6.8 | 12 ¼ |
| 9. | SEC | 3560 | 428 | 16.5 | 28.0 | 7.3 | 12 ¼ |
| 10. | SEC | 3560 | 428 | 15.5 | 27.6 | 7.7 | 12 ¼ |
| **AVERAGE** | | **3560** | **465.25** | **16.25** | **28.85** | **7** | **12 ¼** |

**Table 2: HTC. Bits Records for the Interval in Well X14**

| BIT NO | TYPES/ MAKE | BIT COST ($) | FOOTAGE DRILLED (FT) | ROTATION TIME (HOUR) | FOOT /HOUR (FT) | TRIP TIME (HOUR) | BIT SIZE (INCHES) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | HTC | 2803 | 1051 | 18.5 | 56.8 | 3.1 | 12 ¼ |
| 4 | HTC | 2803 | 1438 | 11.5 | 125 | 4.5 | 12 ¼ |
| 5 | HTC | 2803 | 605 | 18 | 33.8 | 5.1 | 12 ¼ |
| 3 | HTC | 2803 | 1051 | 18.5 | 56.8 | 3.1 | 12 ¼ |
| **AVERAGE** | | **2803** | **1031.3** | **16** | **71.8** | **4.2** | |

**Table 3: REED Bit Record for the Interval in Well 14**

| BIT NO | TYPES/ MAKE | BIT COST ($) | FOOTAGE DRILLED (FT) | ROTATION TIME (HOUR) | FOOT /HOUR (FT) | TRIP TIME (HOUR) | BIT SIZE (INCHES) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 14 | REED | 16,900 | 996 | 19 | 52.4 | 11.2 | 12 ¼ |
| **AVERAGE** | | **16,900** | **996** | **19** | **52.4** | **11.2** | **12 ¼** |

**Table 4: SEC BITS Record for the Interval in Well X35**

| BIT NO | TYPES/ MAKE | BIT COST ($) | FOOTAGE DRILLED (FT) | ROTATION TIME (HOUR) | FOOT /HOUR (FT) | TRIP TIME (HOUR) | BIT SIZE (INCHES) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | SEC | 3560 | 600 | 18.75 | 32 | 8.6 | 12 ¼ |
| 8 | SEC | 3560 | 505 | 11.75 | 43 | 9.1 | 12 ¼ |
| 9. | SEC | 3560 | 945 | 10.5 | 90 | 10.0 | 12 ¼ |
| **AVERAGE** | | **3560** | **683.3** | **13.5** | **55** | **9.2** | |

**Table .5: HTC BITS Record for the Interval in Well X35.**

| BIT NO | TYPES/ MAKE | BIT COST ($) | FOOTAGE DRILLED (FT) | ROTATION TIME (HOUR) | FOOT /HOUR (FT) | TRIP TIME (HOUR) | BIT SIZE (INCHES) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | HTC | 2803 | 740 | 10 | 74 | 5.0 | 12 ¼ |
| 5 | HTC | 2803 | 956 | 9.75 | 98 | 5.9 | 12 ¼ |
| 6 | HTC | 2803 | 2020 | 28.25 | 52.8 | 8.0 | 12 ¼ |
| **AVERAGE** | | **2803** | **1238.6** | **16** | **74.93** | **6.3** | |

## DISCUSSION

Predicting the behaviour of drill Bits in an unfamiliar environment is done using the drilling data acquired from the vicinity but if already known conditions and terms remain the same, then predicting well cost becomes very easy. However, it is customary to always use certain level of safety factors to account for downtime losses due to tool failures and other unforeseen hole problems rather than solely rely on the data obtained from the previous well.

**Well 14: (BIT TYPE SEC and HTC)**

In table 8, Bit number 7 has the highest overall cost value of 27,136.24US Dollar while Bit number 8 has the least overall cost of 18,961.69US Dollar. Therefore, if all other factors are kept constant, Bit number 8 being the Bit with the lowest cost value may be recommended for this operation. From table 7,Bit number 5 has the highest overall cost value of 36,494.52US Dollar while Bit number 4 has the least overall cost of 11,607.23 US Dollar.

**Well 35: (BIT TYPE SEC and HTC)**

In table 9,Bit number 9 has the highest overall cost value of 77,772.12US Dollar while Bit number 7 has the least overall cost of 13,015. 21US Dollar. Table.10 , Bit number 4 has the highest overall cost value of 41,632.69US Dollar while Bit number 5 has the least overall cost of 31,863.71US Dollar.

Generally from the results and the cost per foot analysis, a total saving of 114,622.12US Dollar was experienced in well X35 when compared with well X14 Bit records. The X14 Bit records showed a total of 14 Bits, in 220.25 hours while the X35 well Bit records showed a total of 9 Bits with a drilling time of 160.25 hours. Thus this is a cost and time saving for the evaluation well X35. Hence it can be deduced that Bit performance evaluation and optimization enhanced the minimum cost of the well and also lots of time saving.

## SOFTWARE DESIGN AND RESULTS

**TABLE 6: Bit Input Data and optimization Results X14 (BIT TYPE SEC)**

| Formation Depth (ft) | Rig Cost ($ / hr) | Trip Time (hr) | Choose Number of Bits to be analized | Database Length |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 465.25 | 836 | 7 | 4 | 4 |

DRILLING BITS RECORDS

| Bit Number | Bit Cost ($) | Rotating Time (hr) | Connection Time (hrs) | Mean Penetration Rate (ft/hr) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 3560 | 12 | 0.1 | 27.9 |
| 8 | 3560 | 21 | 0.4 | 31.9 |
| 9 | 3560 | 16.5 | 0.5 | 28 |
| 10 | 3560 | 15.5 | 0.3 | 27.6 |

BIT OPTIMIZATION RESULT

RESULT SUMMARY Save As--- Pdf format|*.pd Save Print

| Bit Number | | Drill Cost Per Foot($) | Oveall Drill Cost($) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | = | 58.326165 | 27136.24826625 |
| 8 | = | 40.755934 | 18961.6982935 |
| 9 | = | 51.134199 | 23790.18608475 |
| 10 | = | 52.877045 | 24601.04518625 |

**TABLE 7: Bit Input Data and optimization Results X14 (BIT TYPE HTCC)**

| Formation Depth (ft) | Rig Cost ($ / hr) | Trip Time (hr) | Choose Number of Bits to be analized | Database Length |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1031.3 | 836 | 4.2 | 4 | 4 |

DRILLING BITS RECORDS

| Bit Number | Bit Cost ($) | Rotating Time (hr) | Connection Time (hrs) | Mean Penetration Rate (ft/hr) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2803 | 18.5 | 0.5 | 56.8 |
| 4 | 2803 | 11.5 | 0.3 | 125 |
| 5 | 2803 | 18 | 0.2 | 33.8 |
| 3 | 2803 | 18.5 | 0.8 | 56.8 |

## BIT OPTIMIZATION RESULT

**RESULT SUMMARY** Save As--- Pdf format|*.pd Save Print

| Bit Number | | Drill Cost Per Foot($) | Oveall Drill Cost($) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | = | 21.125048 | 21786.2620024 |
| 4 | = | 11.254957 | 11607.2371541 |
| 5 | = | 35.386917 | 36494.5275021 |
| 3 | = | 21.363723 | 22032.4075299 |

**TABLE 8: Bit Input Data and optimization Results X14B (BIT TYPE HTC)**

| Formation Depth (ft) | Rig Cost ($ / hr) | Trip Time (hr) | Choose Number of Bits to be analized | Database Length |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 996 | 836 | 11.2 | 2 | 1 |

## DRILLING BITS RECORDS

| Bit Number | Bit Cost ($) | Rotating Time (hr) | Connection Time (hrs) | Mean Penetration Rate (ft/hr) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 2803 | 18.5 | 0.5 | 56.8 |
| 4 | 2803 | 11.5 | 0.3 | 125 |
| 5 | 2803 | 18 | 0.2 | 33.8 |
| 3 | 2803 | 18.5 | 0.8 | 56.8 |

## BIT OPTIMIZATION RESULT

**RESULT SUMMARY** Save As--- Pdf format|*.pd Save Print

| Bit Number | | Drill Cost Per Foot($) | Oveall Drill Cost($) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | = | 26.694138 | 26587.361448 |
| 4 | = | 15.325913 | 15264.609348 |
| 5 | = | 45.005588 | 44825.565648 |
| 3 | = | 26.932813 | 26825.081748 |

**TABLE 9: Bit Input Data and optimization Results X35 (BIT TYPE SEC)**

| Formation Depth (ft) | Rig Cost ($ / hr) | Trip Time (hr) | Choose Number of Bits to be analized | Database Length |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 683.3 | 836 | 11.5 | 3 | 3 |

DRILLING BITS RECORDS

| Bit Number | Bit Cost ($) | Rotating Time (hr) | Connection Time (hrs) | Mean Penetration Rate (ft/hr) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 3560 | 18.75 | 0.2 | 32 |
| 8 | 3560 | 11.75 | 0.2 | 43 |
| 9 | 3560 | 10.5 | 0.4 | 90 |

BIT OPTIMIZATION RESULT

RESULT SUMMARY Save As--- Pdf format(*.pd Save Print

| Bit Number | Drill Cost Per Foot($) | Oveall Drill Cost($) |
|---|---|---|
| 7 = | 190.480333 | 130155.2115389 |
| 8 = | 214.618902 | 146649.0957366 |
| 9 = | 113.818413 | 77772.1216029 |

**TABLE 10: Bit Input Data and optimization Results X35 (BIT TYPE HTC)**

| Formation Depth (ft) | Rig Cost ($ / hr) | Trip Time (hr) | Choose Number of Bits to be analized | Database Length |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1238.6 | 836 | 16 | 3 | 3 |

DRILLING BITS RECORDS

| Bit Number | Bit Cost ($) | Rotating Time (hr) | Connection Time (hrs) | Mean Penetration Rate (ft/hr) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 2803 | 10 | 0.4 | 74 |
| 5 | 2803 | 9.75 | 0.3 | 98 |
| 6 | 2803 | 28.25 | 0.5 | 52.8 |


## REFERENCES


[1]. Carl Gatlin (1960) : Petroleum Engineering (Drilling and Well Completion) Prentice Hall Inc: page 149-150.
[2]. Chevalier, J.F, Quetier and Marshall(1986). :'Technical Drilling Data Acquisition and Processing United Integration Computer System'. SPE JPT (April) page 4-7
[3]. Mayeri-Gurr Alfred(1975). :Petroleum Engineering: Published by Pittmon .Page 152 – 215.
[4]. Preston, L. Moore(1974) : Drilling Practice Manual "Petroleum Publishing Company, Tulsa (January) Page 140-150
[5]. Rotary Drilling Manual(1960) : "The Bit" University of Texas, First Edition page 1-38.
[6]. University of Texas : "Lesson in Rotary Drilling-"The Bit" lesson II Petroleum Extension Service.
[7]. Young, F.S. (1969). Computerized Drilling Control SPT (April) pages 483.


## APPENDIX

**TABLE 11: The Input And Output Variable Of The Sensitivity Analysis Of Well X14 Bit Type Reed**

| | Bit Cost | Rig Cost | Rotation time | Trip Time | Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Distribution | Uniform | Uniform | Uniform | Uniform | Uniform |
| Min | 16900 | 836 | 19 | 7 | 465.25 |
| Max | 16900 | 836 | 19 | 7 | 465.25 |
| Name | 16900 | 836 | 19 | 7 | 465.25 |
| | OUTPUT | VARIABLES | | | |
| Cost Per Foot | 83.04352499 | | | | |
| Overall Cost | 38636 | | | | |

**TABLE 12: The Input And Output Variable Of The Sensitivity Analysis Of Well 35 Bit Type Sec**

| | INPUT | | VARIABLES | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bit Cost | Rig Cost | Rotation time | Trip Time | Depth |
| Distribution | Normal | Uniform | Normal | Uniform | Uniform |
| Mean/Min | 3560 | 836 | 13.66667 | 13.5 | 683.3 |
| STD/Max | 0 | 836 | 4.446441 | 13.5 | 683.3 |
| Name | 3560 | 836 | 13.66667 | 13.5 | 683.3 |
| | OUTPUT | | VARIABLES | | |
| Cost Per Foot | 38.44772916 | | | | |
| Overall Cost | 26271.33333 | | | | |

**TABLE 13: The Input And Output Variable Of The Sensitivity Analysis Of Well 35 Bit Type Htc**

| | INPUT VARIABLES | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bit Cost | Rig Cost | Rotation time | Trip Time | Depth |
| Distribution | Normal | Uniform | Normal | Uniform | Uniform |
| Mean/Min | 2803 | 836 | 28.25 | 6.3 | 1017.55 |
| STD/Max | 0 | 836 | 10.60955 | 6.3 | 1017.55 |
| Name | 2803 | 836 | 28.25 | 6.3 | 1017.55 |
| | OUTPUT VARIABLES | | | | |
| Cost Per Foot | 31.14028795 | | | | |
| Overall Cost | 31686.8 | | | | |

**TABLE 14: The Input And Output Variable Of The Sensitivity Analysis Of Well 14 Bit Type Sec**

| | INPUT VARIABLES | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bit Cost | Rig Cost | Rotation time | Trip Time | Depth |
| Distribution | Normal | Uniform | Normal | Uniform | Uniform |
| Mean/Min | 3560 | 836 | 16.25 | 16.25 | 465.25 |
| STD/Max | 0 | 836 | 3.708099244 | 16.25 | 465.25 |
| Name | 3560 | 836 | 16.25 | 16.25 | 465.25 |
| | OUTPUT VARIABLES | | | | |
| Cost Per Foot | 66.05051048 | | | | |
| Overall Cost | 30730 | | | | |

**TABLE 15: The Input And Output Variable Of The Sensitivity Analysis Of Well 14 Bit Type Htc**

| | INPUT VARIABLES | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Bit Cost | Rig Cost | Rotation time | Trip Time | Depth |
| Distribution | Normal | Uniform | Normal | Uniform | Uniform |
| Mean/Min | 2803 | 836 | 16.625 | 16 | 1031.1 |
| STD/Max | 0 | 836 | 3.424787 | 16 | 1031.1 |
| Name | 2803 | 836 | 16.625 | 16 | 1031.1 |
| | OUTPUT VARIABLES | | | | |
| Cost Per Foot | 29.17030356 | | | | |
| Overall Cost | 30077.5 | | | | |