

Geochemical heterogeneity in lake-type control nonmarine basins from North China and West Africa

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Emphasis and reevaluation of applied geochemical study on deposits of nonmarine sedimentary basins account for a growing segment of current petroleum exploration and exploitation opportunities, especially in areas of rapid market growth such as China, Western Africa, Southeast Asia and South America. Source rocks characterization buried post-Cretaceous in lacustrine environment has been proposed here based on numerous empirical observations of lacustrine basin strata, Cretaceous formations in Jiuquan Basin (China), Eocene formations in Bohai Bay Basin (China), and Cretaceous formations in West and central Africa Basin (Chad). Heterogeneity in geochemical properties are incompletely delineated.

(1) Organic matter richness and pyrolysis results vary in layers of the same basin strata, showing fluctuations of depositional environments and turbulences of preservation. Correlations in listed basins imply common sense that heterogeneity outcomes all the sedimentary and geochemical processes.

(2) Source rocks in relatively mature stage contribute to the major discovery plays in current understanding of petroleum accumulation. Sapropelic kerogen observed and recognized commonly roles in world-class, even humic type input and mixtures frequently occurred. Shales layers in maturity ($R_o < 1.3$) are evaluated rich in shale oil based on the available parameters, while commercial exploitation seldom seen.

(3) Ways to break out the complexity in lacustrine exploration are advised in geochemical perspectives.

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Organic richness and maturity prioritize in source rock evaluation. Isopach and contour delineation usually determines the distribution of plays. Make sure fractures and carrybeds string the oil and gas pools for geologists. For unconventionals, maturity should be first determined and heterogeneity will make production favorable.