

THE INFLUENCE OF TEMPERATURE AND MINERALOGY ON MICROBIAL COMPETITION FOR HYDROGEN CONSUMPTION: IMPLICATIONS FOR UNDERGROUND HYDROGEN STORAGE (UHS)

GDR HYDROGEMM

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MICROBIAL RISKS IN UNDERGROUND $\rm H_2$ STORAGE





Biocorrosion & souring => plant damages

> H2 loss Changes in gas composition

> > Reservoir alteration => clogging, weakening

More experience from field-specific tests and laboratory experiments is needed to predict and manage microbial effects. For more details: Hemme et al., 2017 Heinemann et al., 2021 Dopffel et al., 2023 Dohrmann & Krüger, 2023 Khajooie et al., 2024 Ranchou-Peyruse et al., 2024 Mura et al., 2024





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EXPERIMENTAL & ANALYTICAL APPROACH





Analytical methods	
DNA/RNA extraction/sequencing	
	Multi- omics
Cytometer qPCR	Cellular quantif.
HPLC/ICS μGC	Geochemical reactivity
XRD SEM	Substrate alteration





BATCH EXPERIMENTS (MULLER ET AL., 2024 IJHE)

Key environmental parameters

Basalt



Calcite



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Sandstone



 Gypsum

 Image: Comparison of the second se

Grain size: 100-200µm





Methanogenous Archaea Sulfate reducing bacteria Homoacetogenous bacteria

Kinetics of H₂ consumption

(H)=(H)

Incubation

- 150ml vials
- Agitation at 110 rpm
- DSMZ medium

Inoculum

- Environmental consortium
- Specialized under H₂/CO₂ (80:20) 2 bars

Monitoring

- Gas composition
- Dissolved S species, VOA
- ADN 16S sequencing



RESULTS. *Temperature affects H*² *consumption kinetics*





RESULTS. *Mineralogy drives H2 conversion pathways*



H₂ convertion into CH₄ (by methanogenesis) with calcite, basalt, sandstone and control

 $4H_2 + HCO_3^- + 2H^+ \rightarrow CH_4 + 2H_2O$

Major production of H₂S by sulfate reduction with gypsum

 $4H_2 + SO_4^{2-} + 2H^+ \rightarrow H_2S + 4H_2O$



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RESULTS. *Mineralogy drives H2 conversion pathways*



Lower and variable H₂ convertion into CH₄ (by methanogenesis) with calcite, basalt, sandstone and control

 $4H_2 + HCO_3^- + 2H^+ \rightarrow CH_4 + 2H_2O$

Major production of H₂S by sulfate reduction with gypsum

 $4H_2 + SO_4^{2-} + 2H^+ \rightarrow H_2S + 4H_2O$



RESULTS. *Mineralogy drives H2 conversion pathways*



- Low temperature favors homoacetogenesis over methanogenesis
- Variable H₂ convertion into acetate (by homoacetogenesis) with calcite, basalt, sandstone versus control
- No homoacetogenesis with gypsum



RESULTS. Influence of the mineral substrate



• Hyp: the presence of a mineral substrate to form biofilms may influences the competition for H_2



• Hyp: the microbial activity in biofilms may alter the substrate



RESULTS. Evolution of the hydrogenotroph populations of the consortium



- Confirms the ecological response of microbial populations to variations in operating conditions
- Homoacetogenesis ensured by Acetobacterium genus
- Sulfate reduction ensured by a *Desulfovibrio* species at 25 and 34°C
- At 40°C, mesophilic *Clostridium* species involved in the H₂S production



CONCLUSIONS

- Functional plasticity of the consortium (homoacetogenesis, methanogenesis and sulfate reduction)
- Temperature and mineralogy are key factors influencing the kinetic parameters and pathways of H₂ utilization by microorganisms.
- Preferential adhesion of some communities to mineral substrates?



NEXT STEPS IN PROGRESS

- 1. Improve models of microbial reaction kinetics
- 2. Set up more relevant experimental systems



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BIOFILM MONITORING IN POROUS MEDIA... PHD OF ALEXIS VINDRET





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Merci aux équipes IFPEN impliquées !

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Energies nouvelles

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Elodie Muller Microbiologie

Modélisation

Arnaud Pujol



Alexandre Delarouzee

RESULTS. Mineralogy drives the H2 conversion pathways



Abiotic dissolution of gypsum powder provides "unlimited quantities of sulfate"
⇒ Competitive advantage for sulfate-reducing populations

This advantage is reduced at 40°C



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