

## Combination of basin modeling and pyrrolic nitrogen compounds to investigate the secondary oil migration pathway in the Dongying Depression of Bohai Bay Basin, China

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#### Key issues to be resolved



Location map of Dongying Depression

The research on oil migration is vital for successful petroleum exploration. More than 30 oilfields have been discovered in the Dongying Depression. With the **difficulty of exploration** increasing gradually, it is necessary to reconstruct secondary oil migration pathways to **understand oil accumulation**. In this study, an integrated method of **oil** migration modeling and pyrrolic **nitrogen compounds** analyses is applied to trace secondary oil migration pathways in the Dongying Depression.



#### Key issues to be resolved





# The timing of oil charge

#### Calibrate the thermal maturation history



Cross plots of the modeled and measured  $R_{\rm o}$  and temperature versus depth

Oil generation history modeling is conducted to obtain the main period of oil generation. The timing of oil generation is from 30 to 20 Ma and from 5 to 0 Ma.



Oil generation history of Es<sub>3</sub> and Es<sub>4</sub> source rocks



# The timing of oil charge



Photos of oil inclusions under transmitted light and UV light



Histograms of homogenization temperature for oil inclusions and associated aqueous inclusions in quartz and calcite in carrier rocks





A: Thermal history plots; B: The timing of oil charge inferred by homogenization temperature of aqueous inclusions coeval with oil inclusions; C: Oil generation history

Fluid inclusions analyses and thermal history modeling are conducted to obtain the main period of oil charge. The timing of oil charge is from 24 to 20 Ma and from 4

Cross plot of homogenization temperature and salinity to 3 Ma and correspond with the timing of oil generation. of aqueous inclusions coeval with oil inclusions



Contour maps of hydrocarbon head in the Es<sub>3</sub> Formation at 3 Ma

The oil migration pathways in the Dongying Depression are traced by basin modeling at the time of oil charge.

# Migration pathways tracing



influenced by source facies, maturity and biodegradation.

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# **Migration pathways tracing**

**Similar maturity** 



- (1). Group I oils are generated from  $Es_3$  source rocks;
- ②. Group III oils originate from  $Es_4$  source rocks;
- (3). Group II oils are mixing of  $Es_3$  and  $Es_4$ .

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## **Migration pathways tracing**



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Cross plots of 1-/4-MC, 1,8-/2,7-DMC, [a]/[a]+[c] versus Pr/Ph and  $C_{29} \beta\beta/(\beta\beta+\alpha\alpha)$ 

Thermal maturity don't affect parameters of pyrrolic nitrogen compounds.In each group oils, the influence of source facies on these parameters is little.Migration distance is the main factor influencing these parameters in each group oils.



Contour maps of hydrocarbon head in the Es<sub>3</sub> Formation at 24 Ma



Contour maps of hydrocarbon head in the Es<sub>4</sub> Formation at 24 Ma



Contour maps of hydrocarbon head in the Es<sub>4</sub> Formation at 3 Ma



- There are two main periods of oil charge, i.e. 24-20 Ma and 4-3 Ma, respectively.
- The crude oils in the Dongying Depression display similar maturity and origin of organic matter; they can be separated into three groups based on the depositional environment parameters
- Most of the oil wells and fields are on the modeled migration pathways, the pathways determined by basin modeling are in good agreement with those traced by pyrrolic nitrogen compounds.
- Oil accumulation may be mainly controlled by oil migration pathways and two favourable oil accumulation areas are predicted in the Es<sub>4</sub>
   Formation.



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