

The Mechanism and Protection of Microbial Corrosion in Oil and Gas Field

Di Wang

**Northeastern University, China
November 21st, 2024**

ICorr (UK)-CSCP (China) Webinar

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- 2 Research background**
- 3 Microbial corrosion mechanism**
- 4 Microbial corrosion protection**
- 5 Cases in real world**

Who I'm

Education background

Bachelor in Chemistry @Northeastern University, China 2014

Master in Chemical Engineering @Dalian University of Technology, China 2017

Ph.D in Microbial Corrosion @ICMT, Ohio University, USA 2022



Di Wang

Working Experience

PostDoc in Microbial Corrosion

@NEU June 2022 – May 2024;

Associate Professor in Department of Materials

@ NEU since June 2024

Research Interests

MIC mechanism of sulfate reducing bacteria;

MIC prevention in oil and gas field;

Soil MIC under insulation of buried pipelines;

High temperature MIC research;

MIC in flow loop.

Where I'm from

Institute for Corrosion and Multiphase Technology @ Ohio University



ICMT



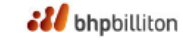
TOC



Tilting Rig Corrosion



H₂S corrosion



Sponsors

Where I'm from

Chinese Alumni from ICMT Working in Oil and Gas Industry



Shuai Ren, graduated 2023
Materials Scientist @Halliburton



Huiru Wang, graduated 2023
Research Scientist @Sinopec



Wei Zhang, graduated 2021
Engineer @Schlumberger



Ru Jia, graduated 2018
Engineer @ ChampoinX



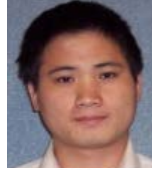
Shujun Gao, graduated 2018
Corrosion Scientist @Baker Hughes



Wei Li, graduated 2016
Senior Engineer @ExxonMobil



Jing Ning, graduated 2016
Corrosion Engineer @Honeywell



Yougui Zheng, graduated 2015
Corrosion Engineer @Shell



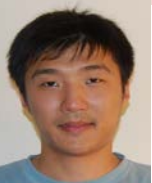
Peng Jin, graduated 2013
Corrosion Scientist @Baker Hughes



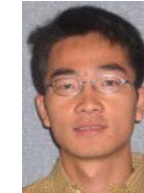
Yang Yang, graduated 2012
Corrosion Engineer @BP



Haitao Fang, graduated 2012
Application Engineer @Baker Hughes



Rao Xiong, graduated 2011
Senior Engineer @ExxonMobil



Xuanping Tang, graduated 2011
Corrosion Engineer @ BASF



Hui Li, graduated 2011
Engineer @ Honeywell



Chong Li, graduated 2009
Materials & Corrosion Engineer @ ExxonMobil



Ziru Zhang, graduated 2008
Materials and Corrosion Engineer @ BP



Wei Sun, graduated 2006
Materials Selection Group Lead @ EMDC, ExxonMobil

Where I'm Working for

Northeastern University of China (NEU): A hundred years of academic glory



Nurturing talent, driving innovation, and achieving excellence

Where I'm Working for

- Department of material science and technology
- Ranking among the top 0.1% (Essential Science Indicator);
- First Nature and Science papers published in 2023;
- Quality control and performance optimization of material preparation and processing, Corrosion, research and development of new materials, new technologies and new processes in different conditions.

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Ductile 2-GPa steels with hierarchical substructure

[YUNJIE LI](#)  [SUO YUAN](#)  [LINLIN LI](#)  [JIAN KANG](#), [FENGKAI YAN](#), [PENGJU DU](#)  [DIERK RAABE](#)  AND [GUODONG WANG](#) [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

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Jan 2023



Where I'm Working for

Prof. Fuhui Wang

National Outstanding Youth 1996



Prof. Derek Lovley

Distinguished professor UMass Amherst



Principle Investigator:

Prof. Dake Xu

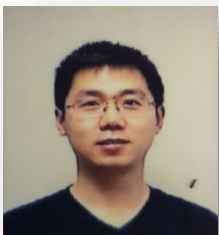
National Outstanding Youth 2024



150+ peer reviewed papers

10,000+ citation

Pioneer in MIC



Prof. Yongqian Fan
Molecular biology



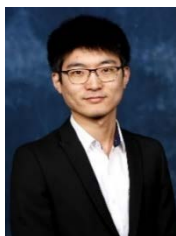
Prof. Mario Marchisio
Molecular biology



Prof. Mingxing Zhang
Microscopy



AP. Danni Zhang
Chemistry



Di Wang
Oil and Gas MIC



Zhong Li
Microbiology



Enze Zhou
Material



Xiangyu Li
Coating



Bin Yu
Antibiofouling

MIC Research Team @NEU: Faculty: 12; Postdoc: 2; PhD students: 31; Master graduate students: 65; More than 100 youth active in MIC.

Where I'm Working for

Laboratory equipment

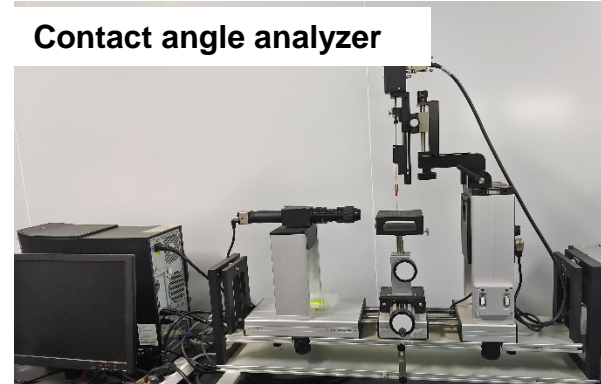
Scanning electron microscopy



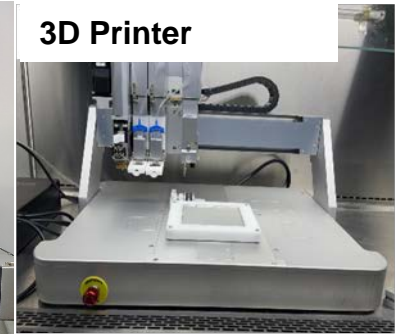
CLSM



Contact angle analyzer



3D Printer



Atomic force microscope



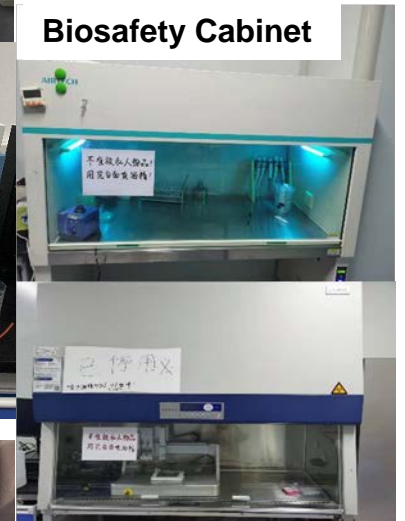
HPLC



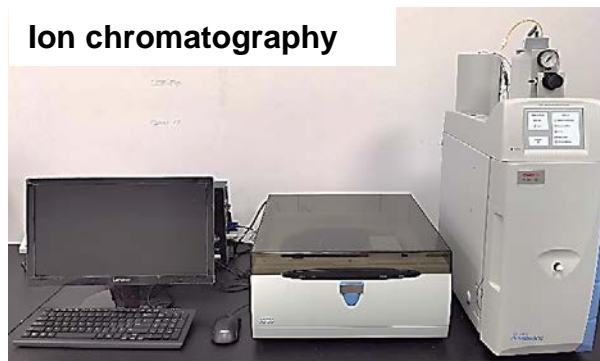
Gas chromatograph



Biosafety Cabinet



Ion chromatography



Gamry workstation

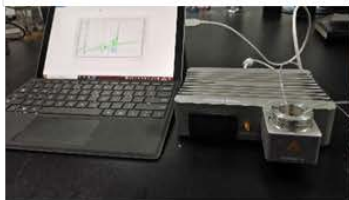


CSTR



Where I'm Working for

E-QCM



Milli-Q water system



COY glove chamber



Chemiluminescence Imaging



Q-PCR



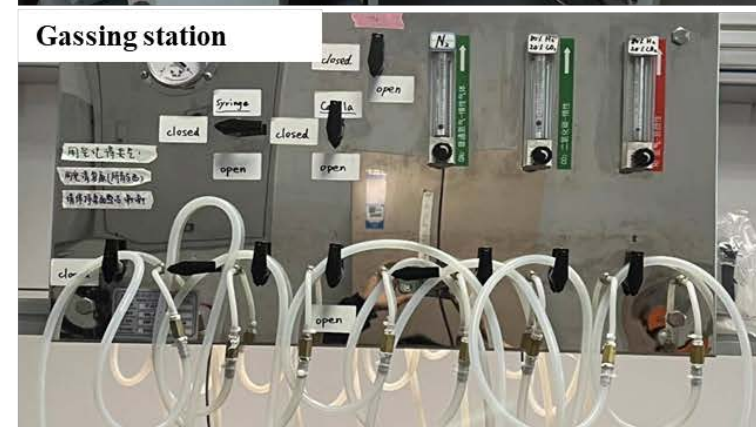
Freeze Dryer



Glove box



Gassing station



Microsensor



UV spectrophotometer



Autoclave



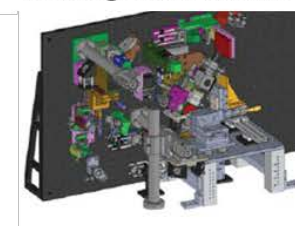
fluorescence inversion microscope



microplate reader



lattice light sheet microscope



Enough equipment satisfying MIC and its related fields.

Contents

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- 2 Research background
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- 5 Cases in real world

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Severe economic losses and significant hazards by corrosion

Petroleum



Aerospace



Energy and Power



Surfside Condo Collapse



Offshore Drilling



Military Equipment



Steel Construction



Baltimore Gas Explosion



**3.34% of the GDP caused by corrosion in China, exceeding 3 trillion CNY (330 billion GBP);
Corrosion affects all sectors of the economy and equipment.**

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Significant losses and threat to energy security.



Pipelines



Crude oil storage tanks



Offshore drilling platform



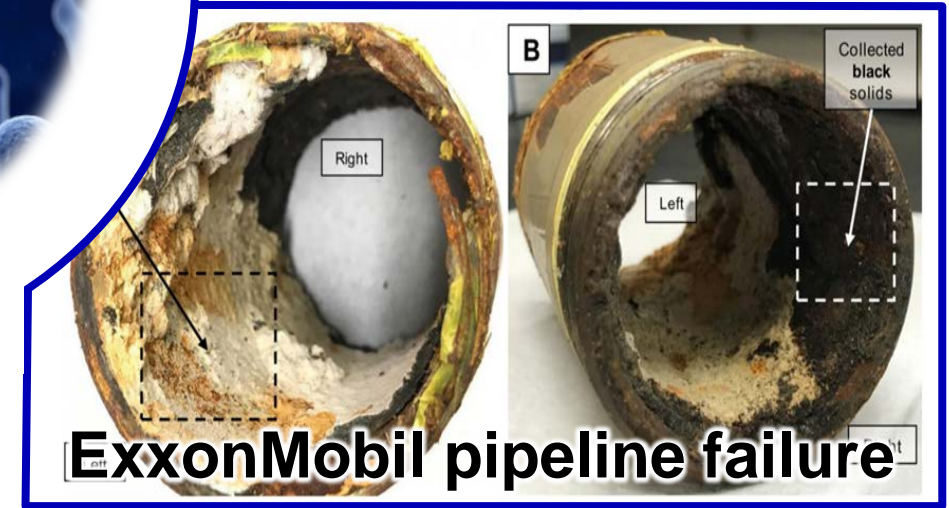
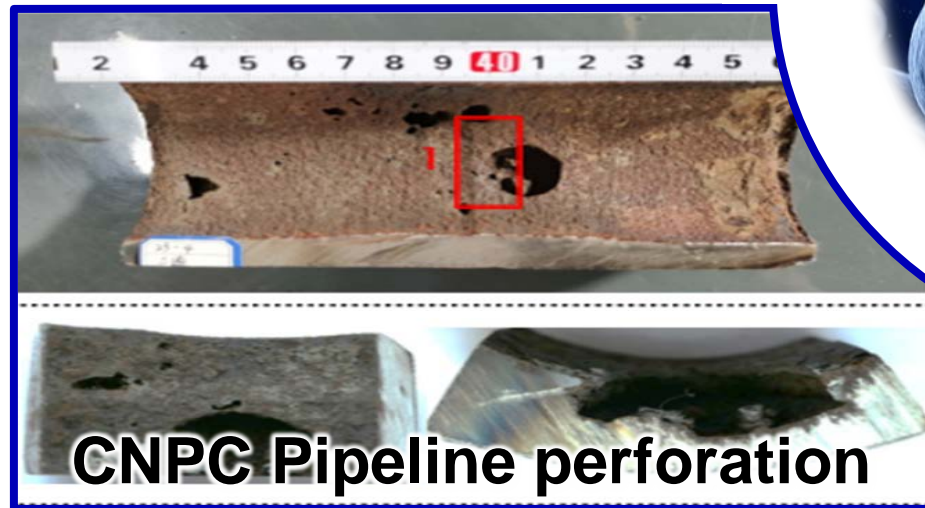
Corrosion under insulation

Corrosion losses account for 3% of GDP; in the oil and gas industry, 6% of GDP!

Corrosion affects every stage of the oil and gas field, impacting the lifeline of petroleum energy.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

MIC accounts for >20% of the total corrosion losses in oil and gas industry

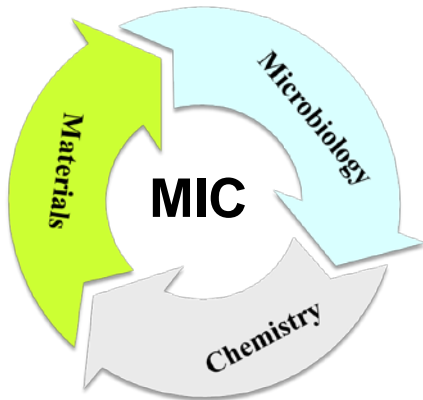


The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

The Existing Problems

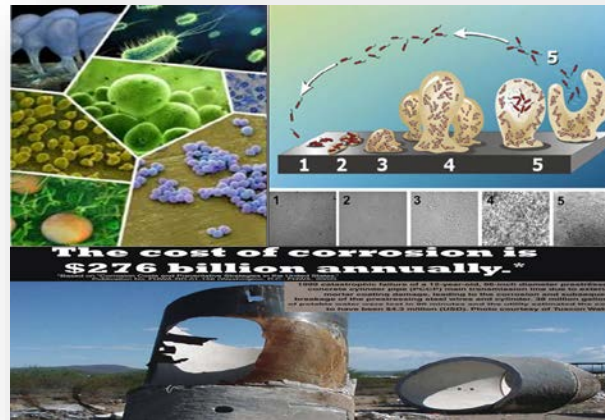
- MIC behavior of specific materials in specific environments;
- Materials, biology, chemistry and other interdisciplinary areas; → Lack of mechanism
- Microbial corrosion in oil and gas fields is a common problem.

MIC Research Difficulty



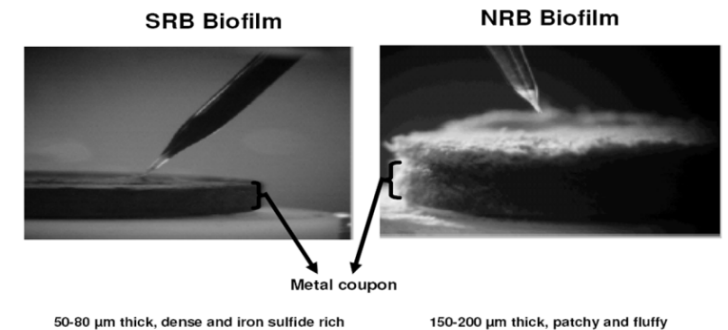
Material + Biology + Chemistry
+...interdisciplinary

Typical MIC Theories



MIC mechanism is a 'myth'

MIC Detection/Monitoring



Blank of MIC monitoring

Key: Elucidating MIC mechanisms navigates the design of materials and treatment methods.

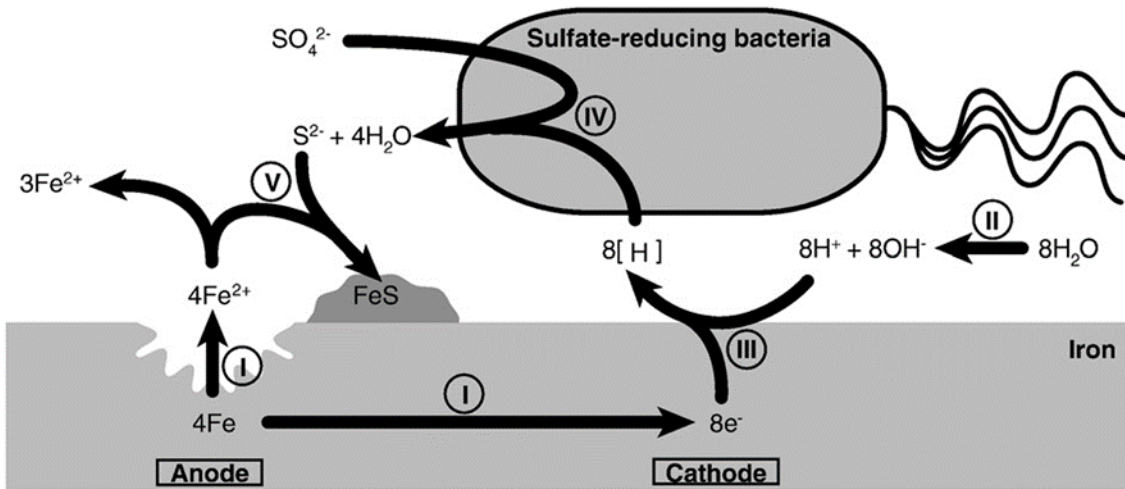
The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Opinion 1:

Electroactive microbes are main causes of MIC by extracellular electron transfer

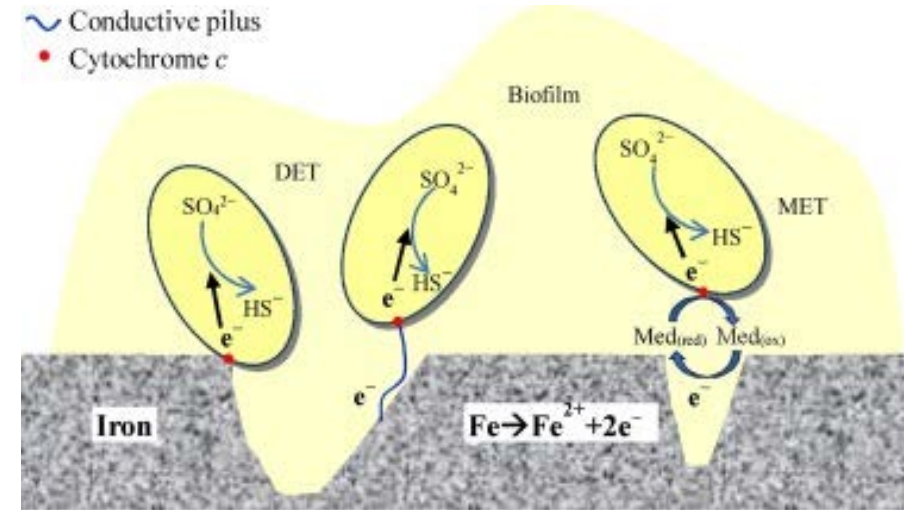
Traditional theories:

explain MIC in specific conditions



EET theories:

explain MIC in more scientific ways.

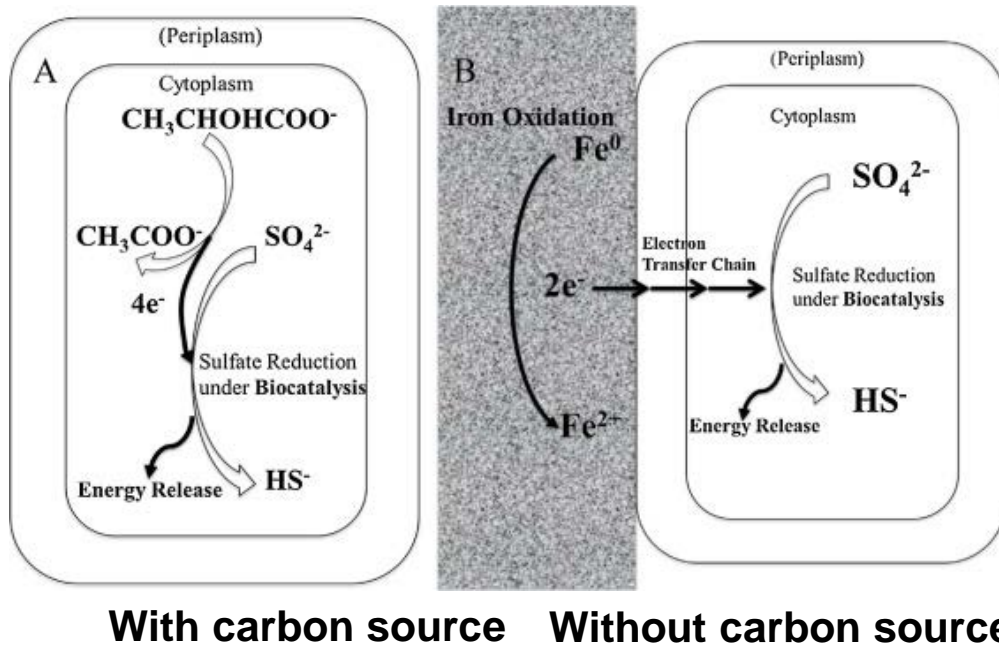


Microbes **indirectly** affect the concentration of hydrogen or oxygen at metal and solution interface

Microbes acquire electrons from metals through EET and are **directly** involved and regulated in the corrosion process

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

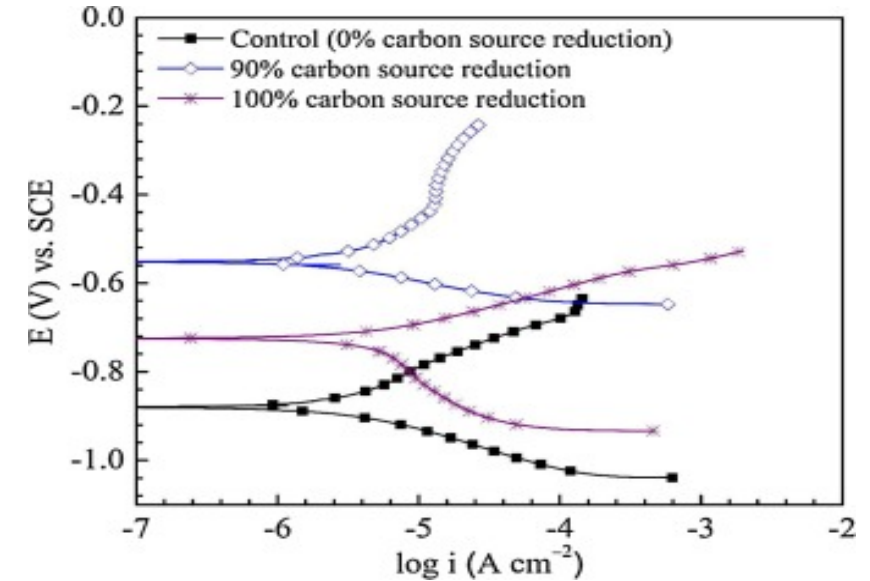
Opinion 2: Microbes obtain energy from metals



Energy

Carbon source

Metal



Classical opinion:

Microbes participate in corrosion passively;

Novel opinion:

Microbes participate in corrosion **positively**.

Novel 'starved' experiment confirmed

More starved SRB \rightarrow **More severe corrosion**

How microbes corrode metals

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

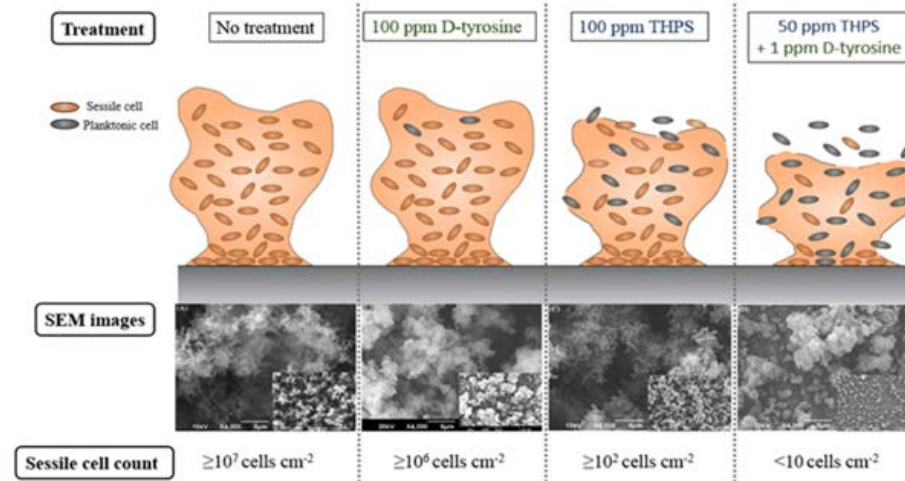
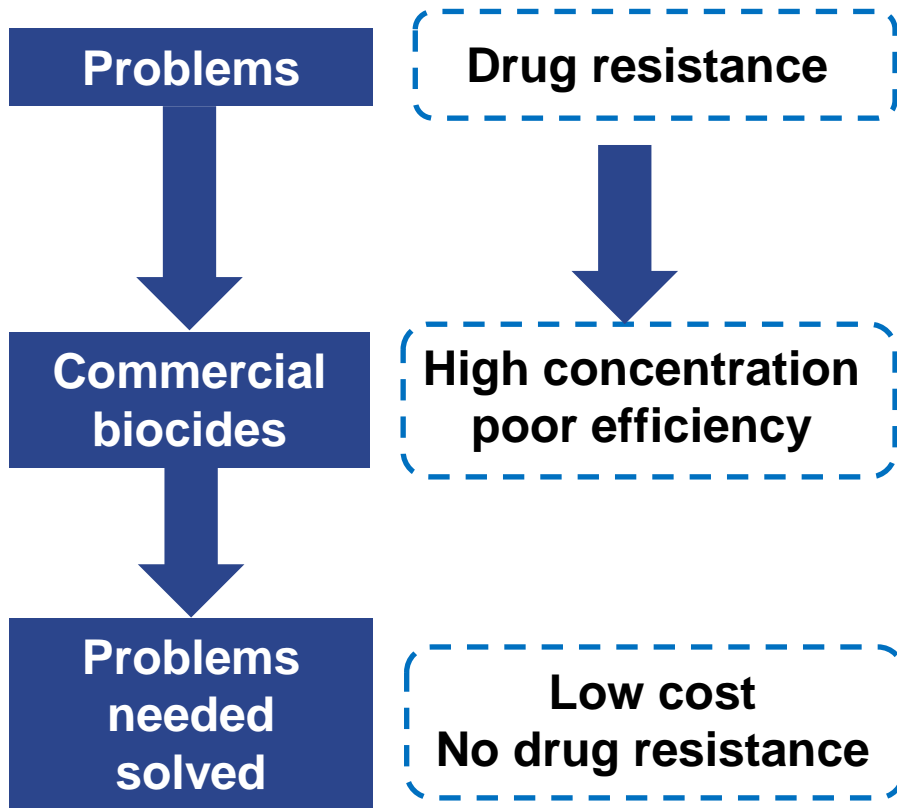
Opinion 3:

Biofilm is the main reason for MIC

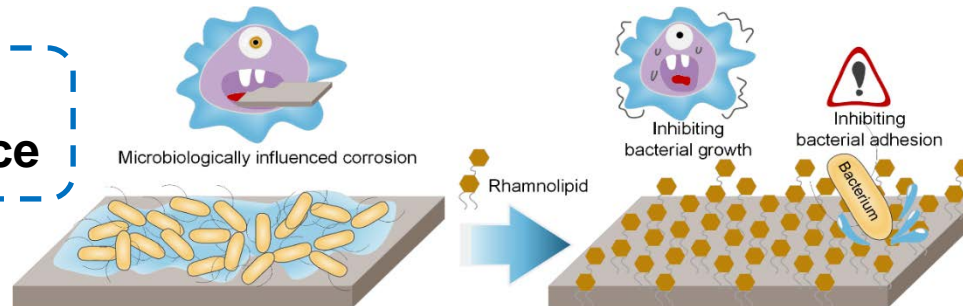
Mitigation of MIC = Biofilm treatment

Strategy: Sessile cells in biofilm
hard to be killed

Planktonic cells
easy to be addressed

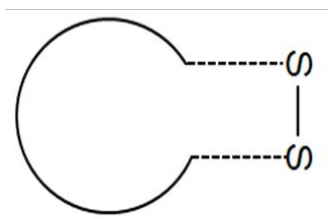


- Efficacy increase
- Prevent cell growth
- Prevent biofilm formation
- Prevent corrosion

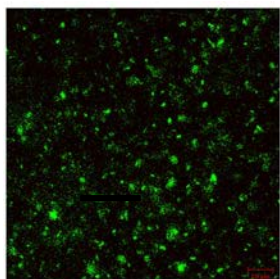


Microbial corrosion protection in oil and gas field

D-amino acid chain enhanced biocide on the mitigation of corrosive biofilm

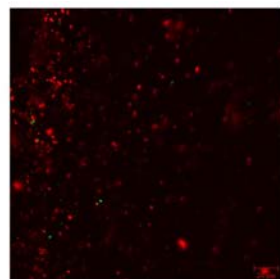


Secretions of the sea anemone



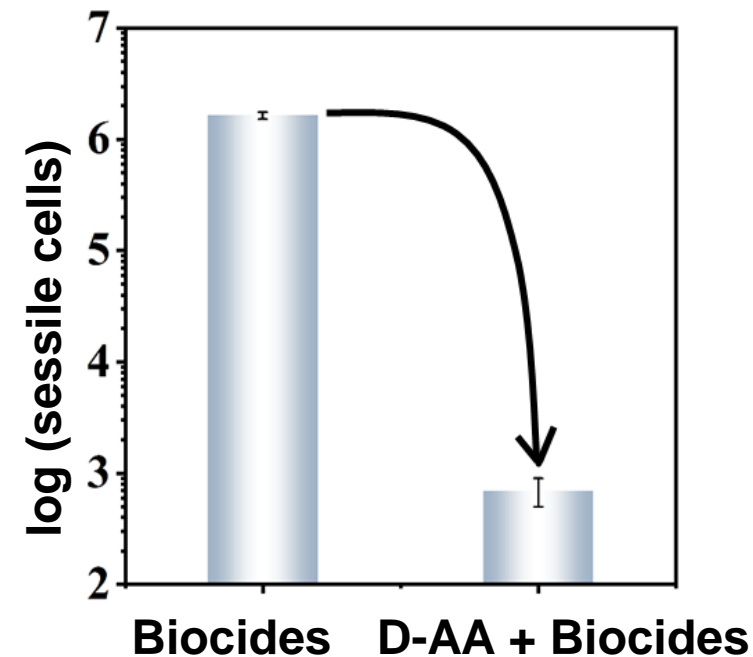
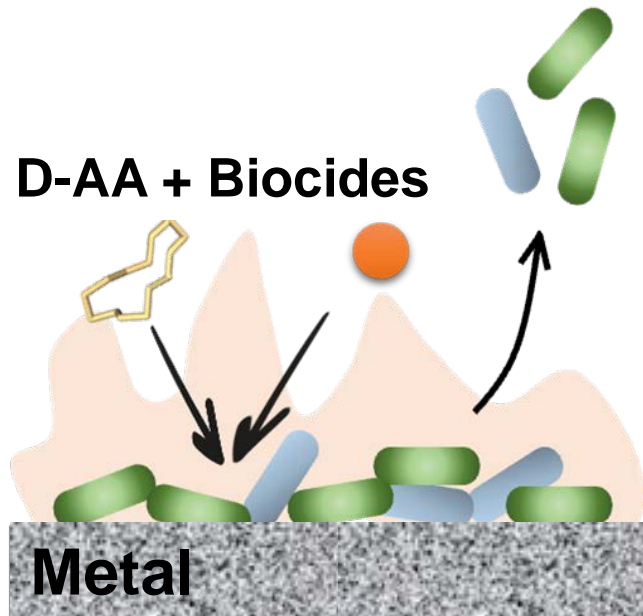
THPS biocide enhanced by 14-mer cyclic CSVPYDYNWYSNWC peptide biocide enhancer

Biofilm prevention test



↑ Bactericidal rate 90%

D-AA dispersing biofilm



↓ Biocide decreased sharply

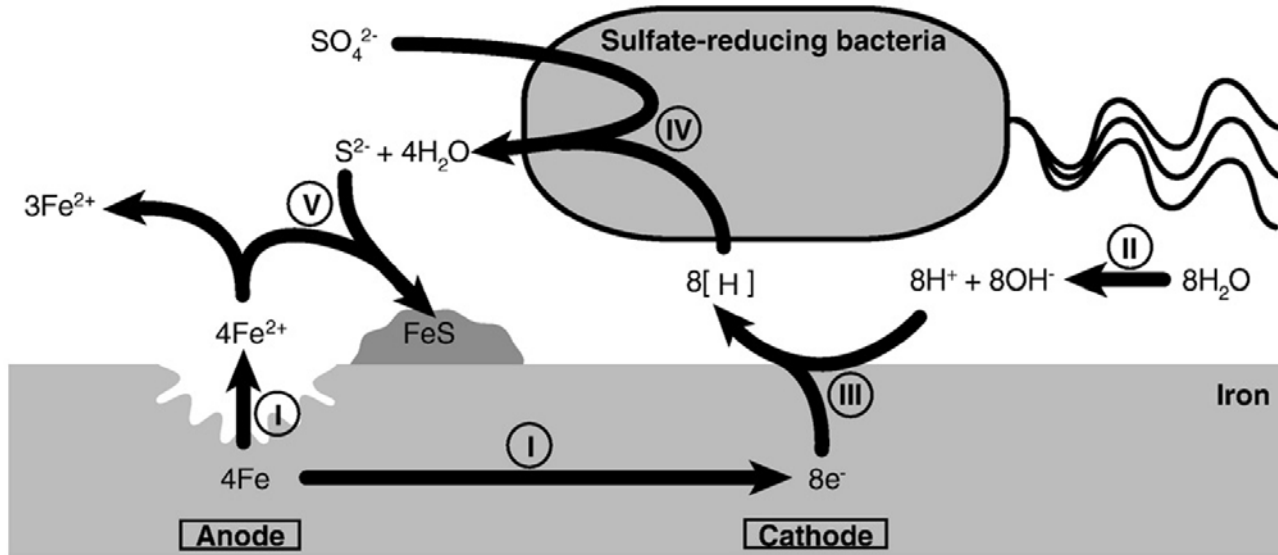
Reducing biocide usage; addressing biocide overuse; achieving eco-friendly goal

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Research background
- 3 **Microbial corrosion mechanism**
- 4 Microbial corrosion protection
- 5 Cases in real world

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Cathodic Depolarization Theory (CDT), Kühr and Vlugt in 1934



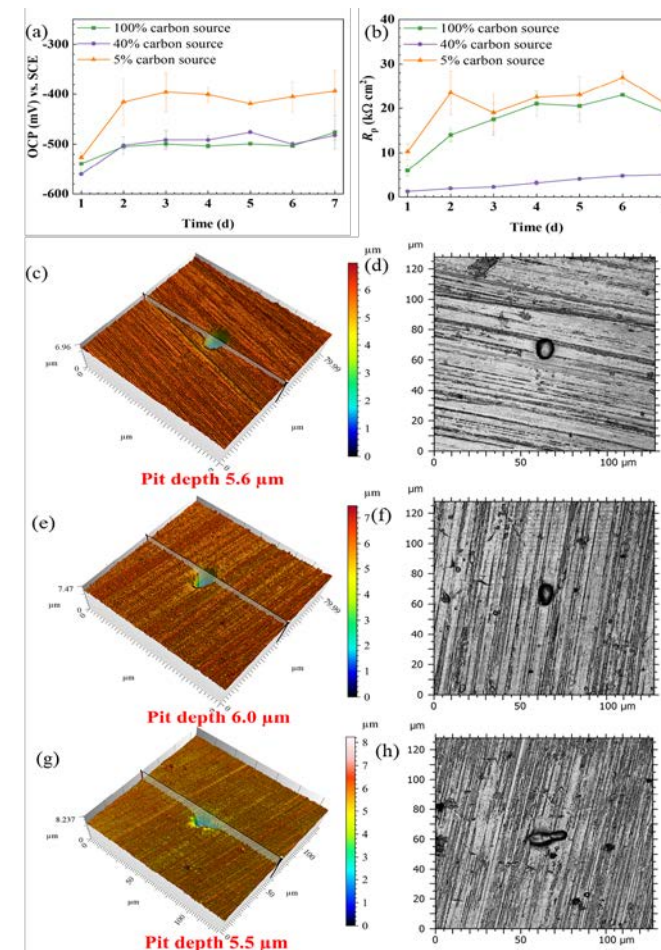
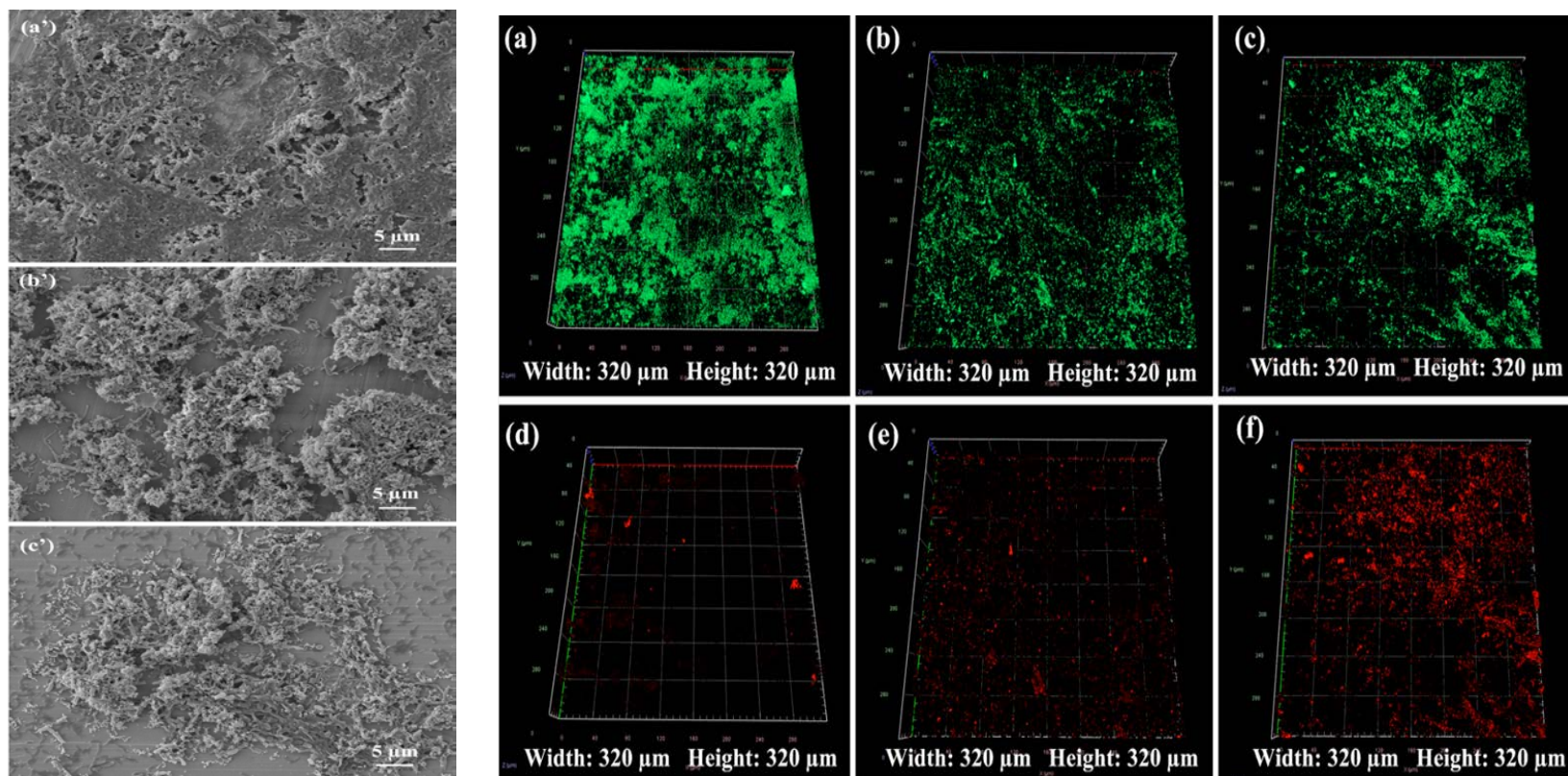
SRB secrete hydrogenase, which lowers the activation energy for the desorption of hydrogen atoms and consumes molecular hydrogen, causing a depolarization effect. This promotes the cathodic reaction, thereby accelerating corrosion.

Scheme of iron corrosion by SRB based on cathodic depolarization theory (CDT)

Hydrogenase is a key role.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Under carbon source starvation

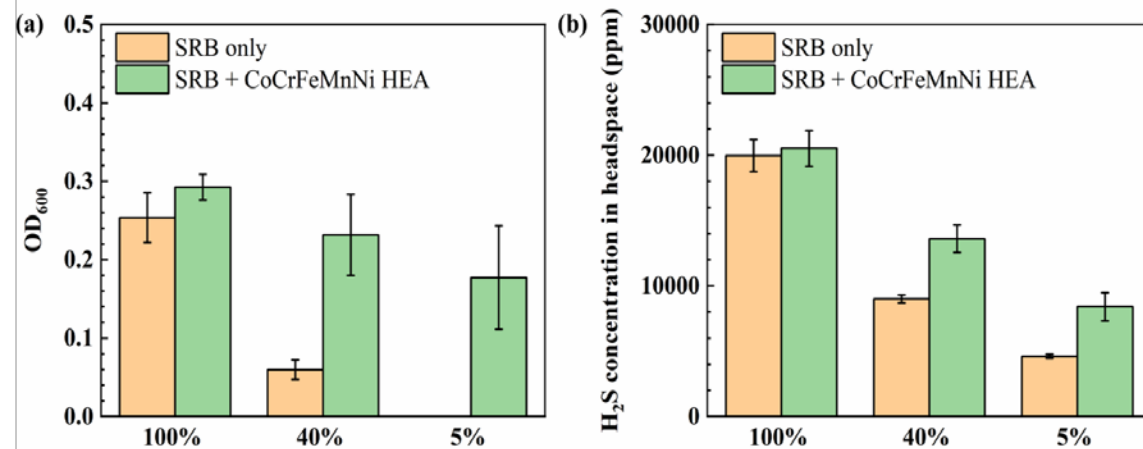
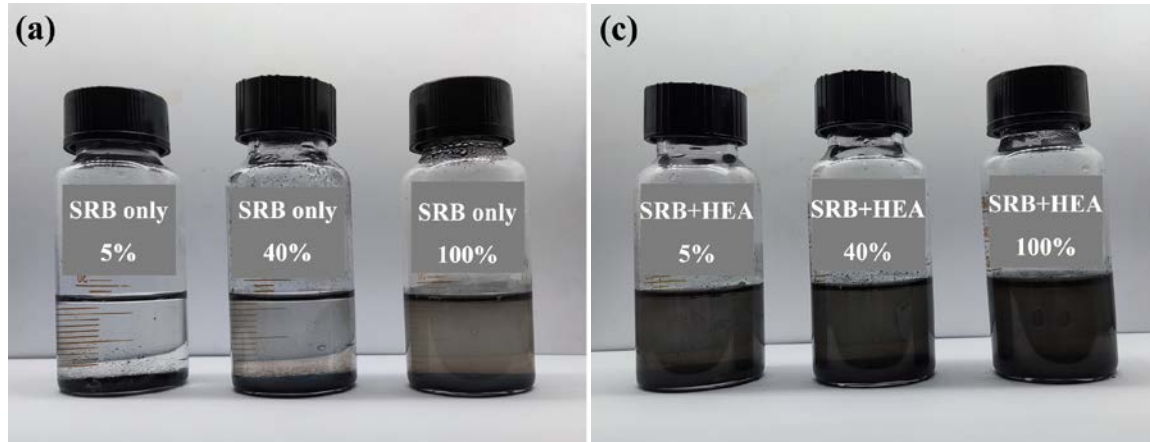


Biofilms on metal surfaces under SEM and CLSM and localized corrosion under different carbon source levels

***D. vulgaris* biofilm formed with less thickness and more dead cells under starved conditions;**

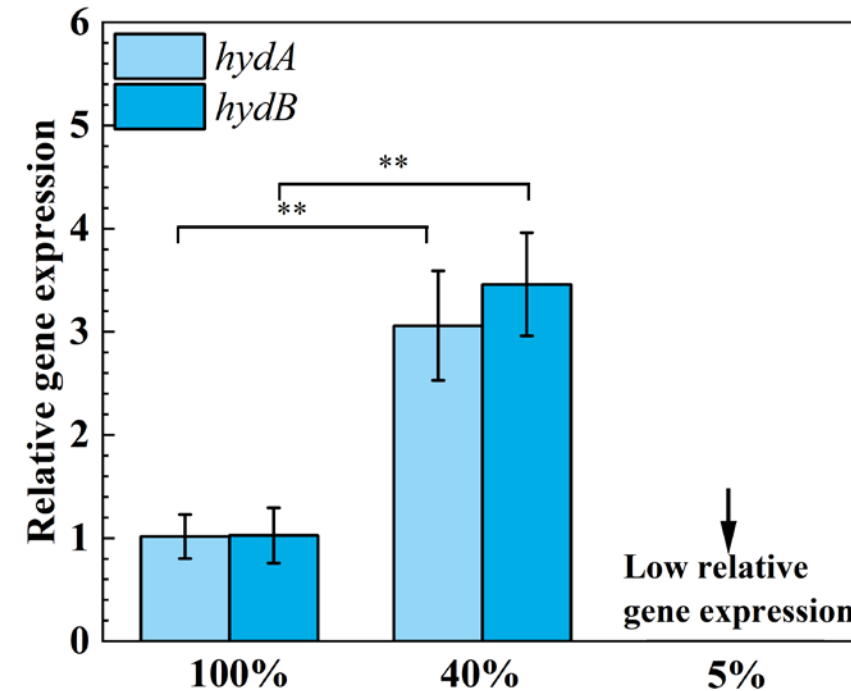
***D. vulgaris* induced more serious localized corrosion under starved conditions.**

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field



Metabolized H₂S is not the main cause

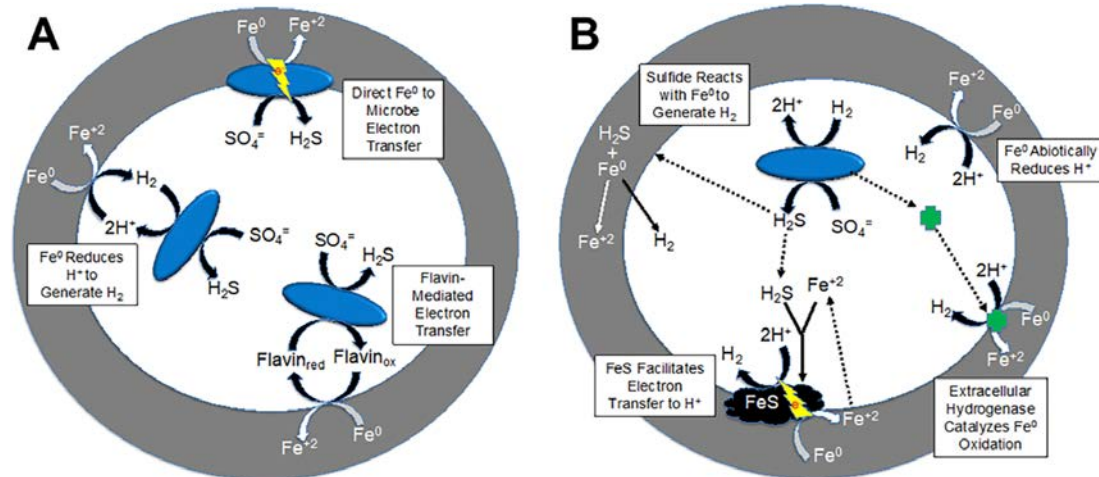
Hydrogenase genes:
hydA, *hydB* (DVU_1769-1770)



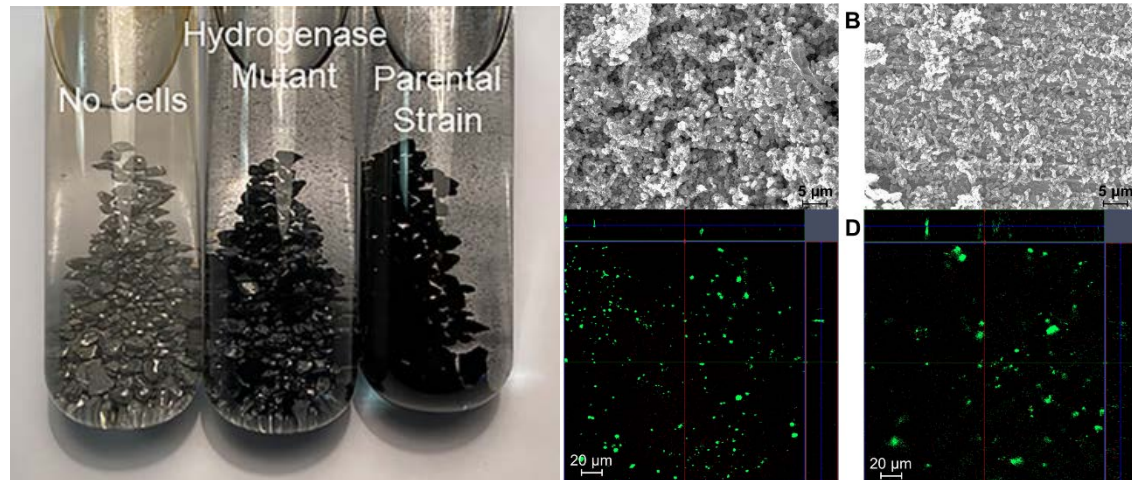
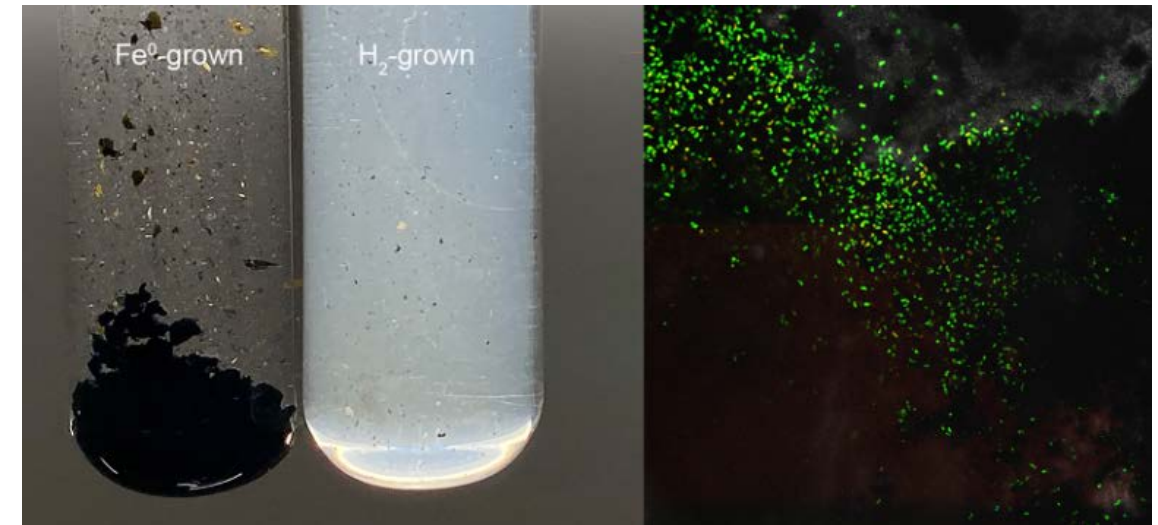
The upregulation of *hydA* and *hydB* in the biofilms under 40% carbon source increased;
The **indirect electron transfer mediated by 2H⁺/H₂** might play an important role.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Elucidating MIC mechanisms with a **hydrogenase-deficient strain of *D. vulgaris***



Desulfovibrio species to receive electrons.



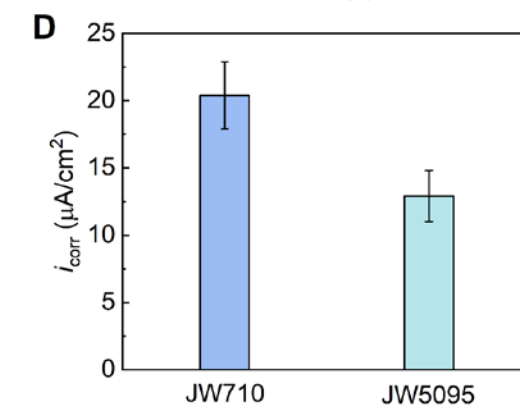
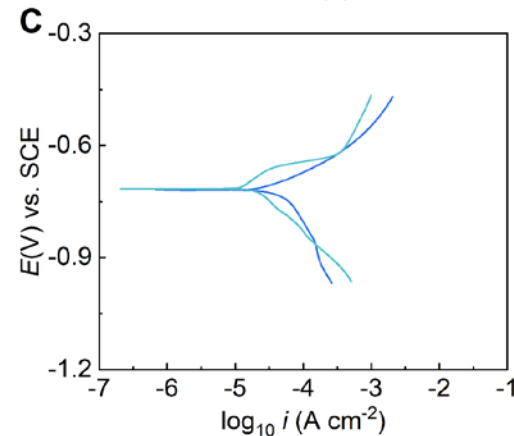
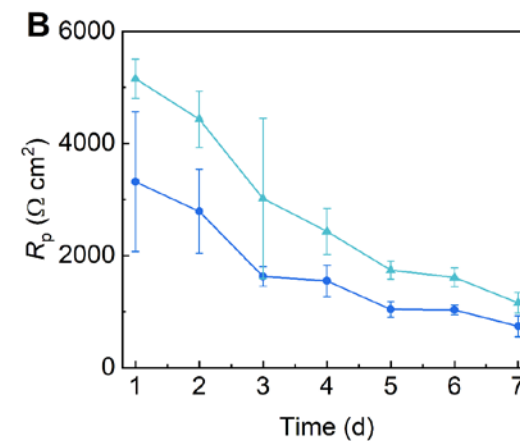
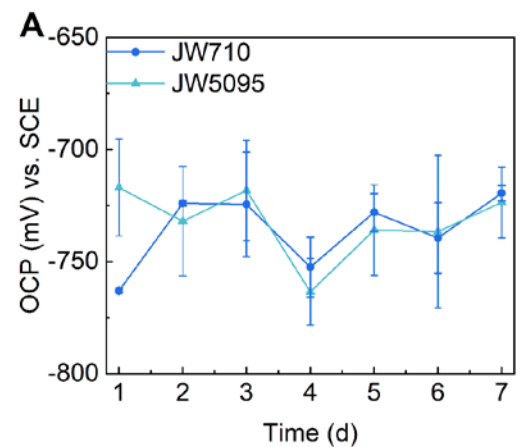
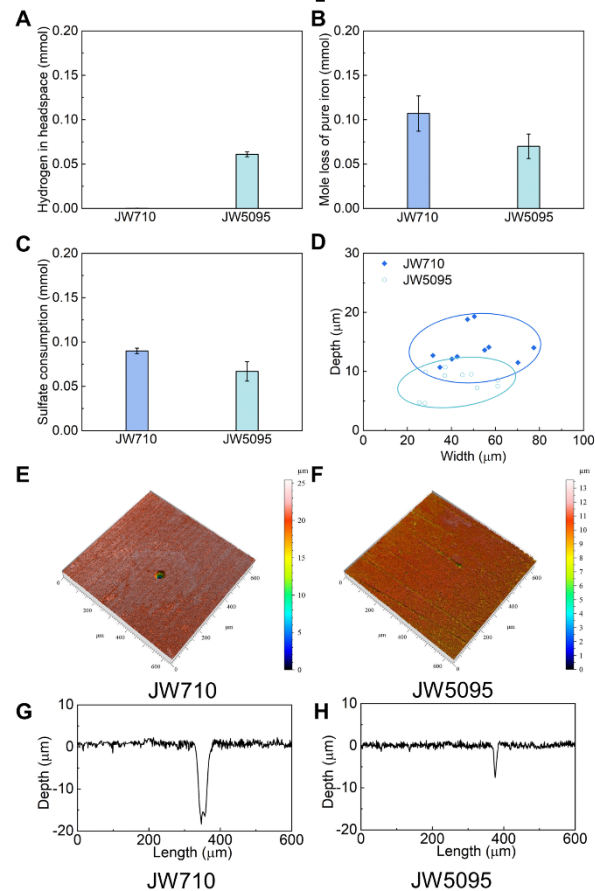
Parental strain:
Markerless genetic in wild type

Hydrogenase mutant:
All hydrogenase genes knockout

Appearance and biofilm images of inoculated with either the hydrogenase mutant or parental strain.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

The corrosion comparison of two strains



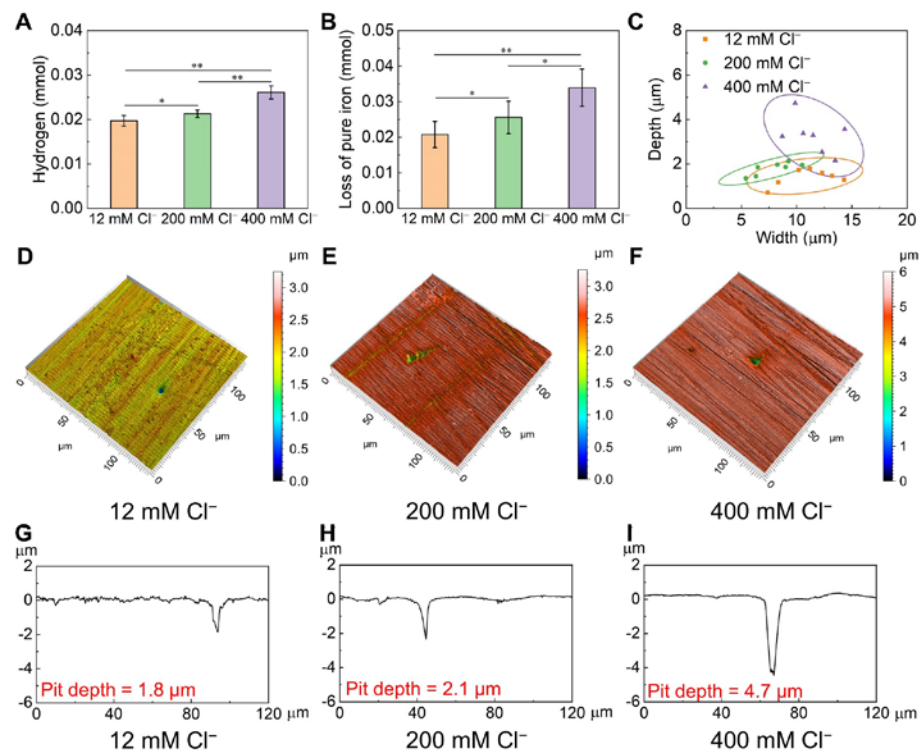
Metabolic and corrosion parameters

Electrochemical analysis

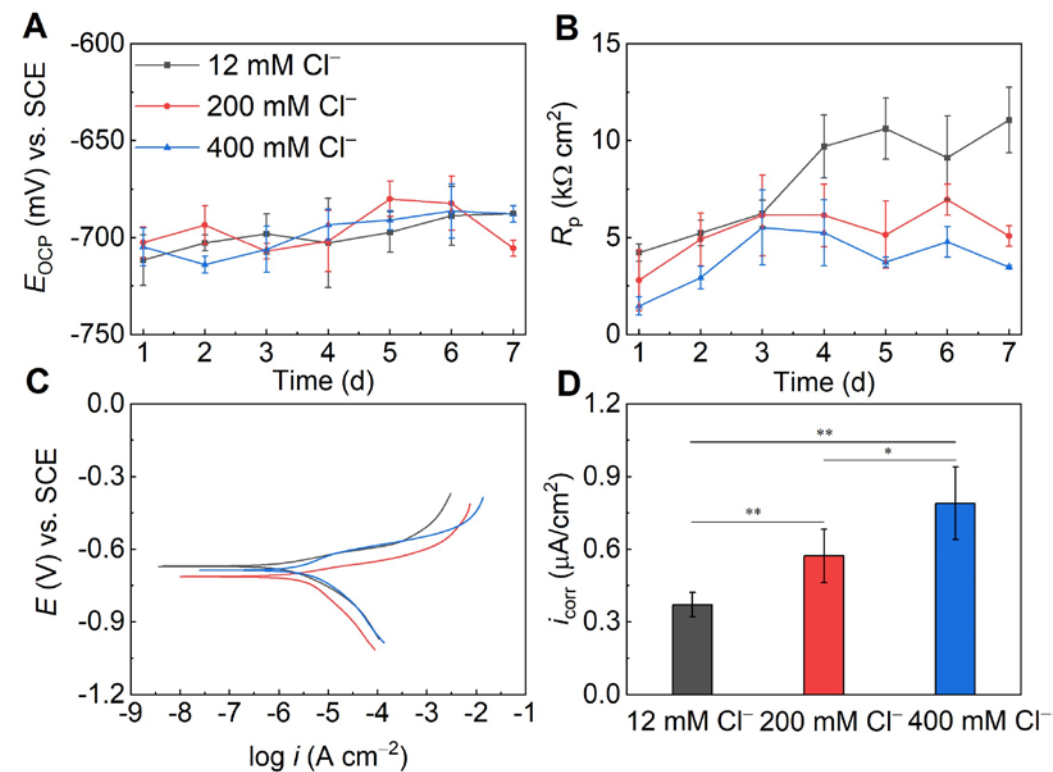
The parental H_2 -consuming strain corroded more Fe^0 than the **mutant strain**, but **hydrogenase-deficient strain also induced corrosion.**

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Higher chloride increases Fe⁰ corrosion



Pitting corrosion



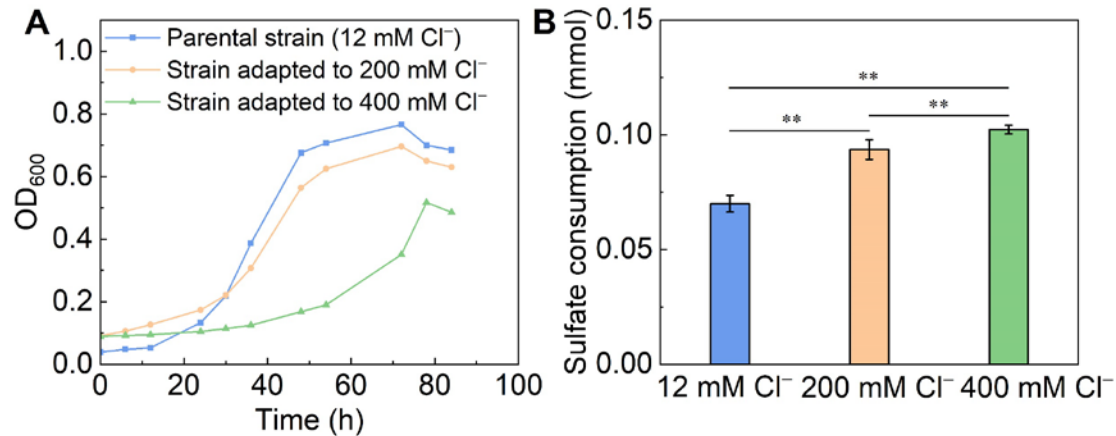
Electrochemical tests

Higher chloride concentrations promoted faster abiotic corrosion rates.

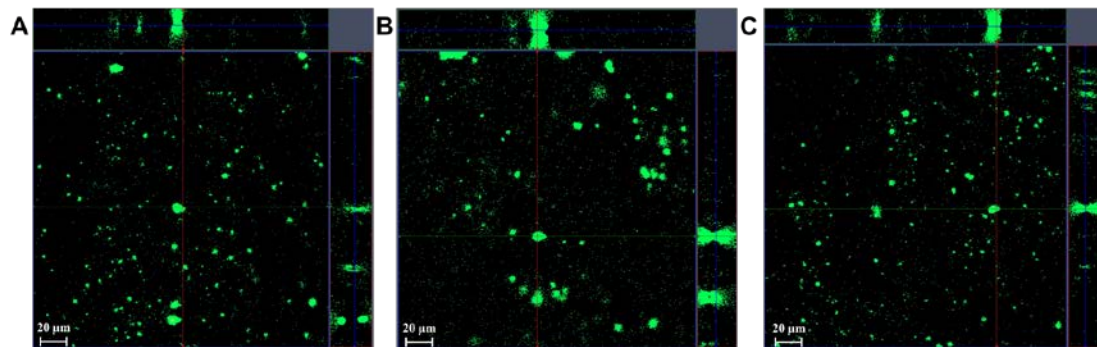
The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Increased chloride accelerates Fe⁰ corrosion in the presence of *D. vulgaris*

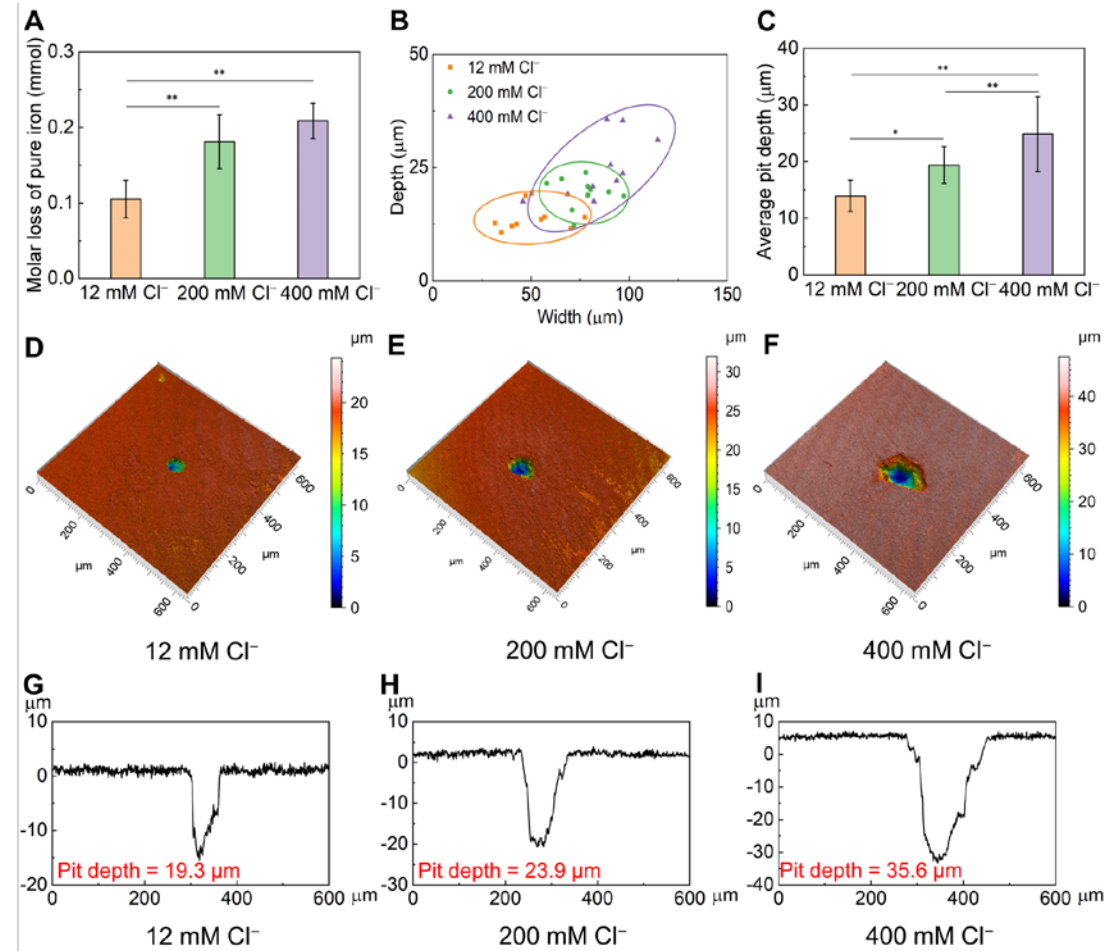
The adaption of *D. vulgaris* from fresh water to seawater



D. vulgaris growth and activity

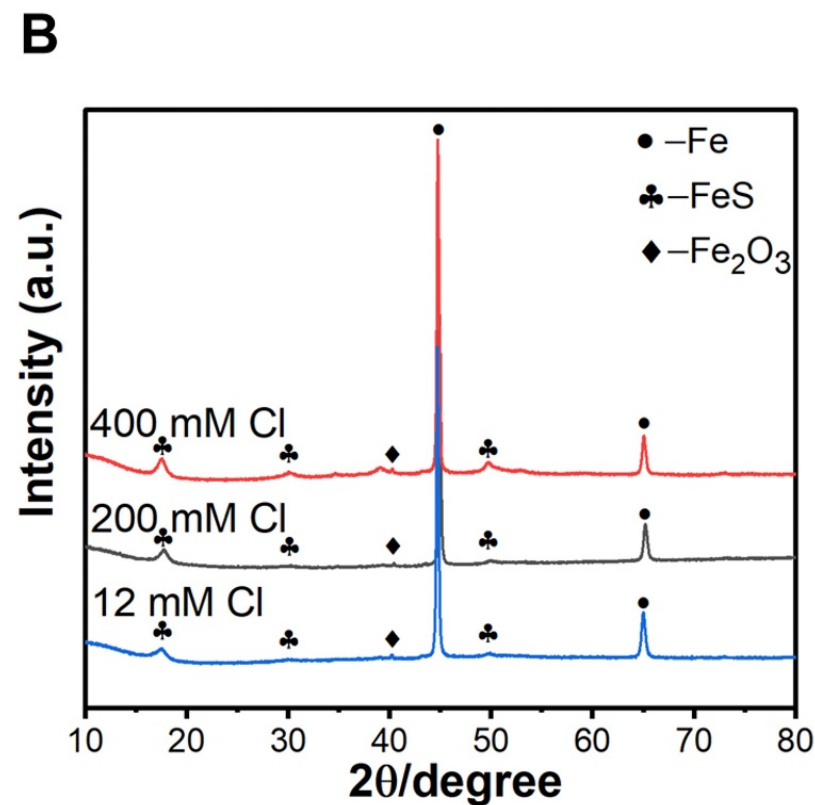
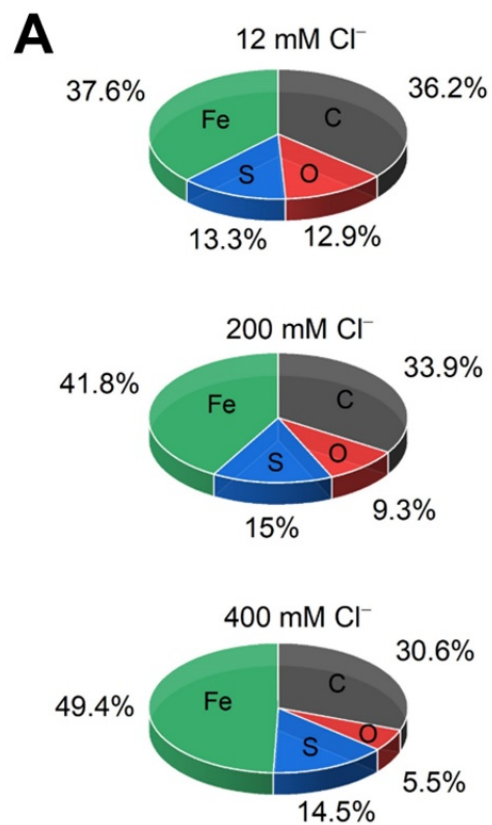
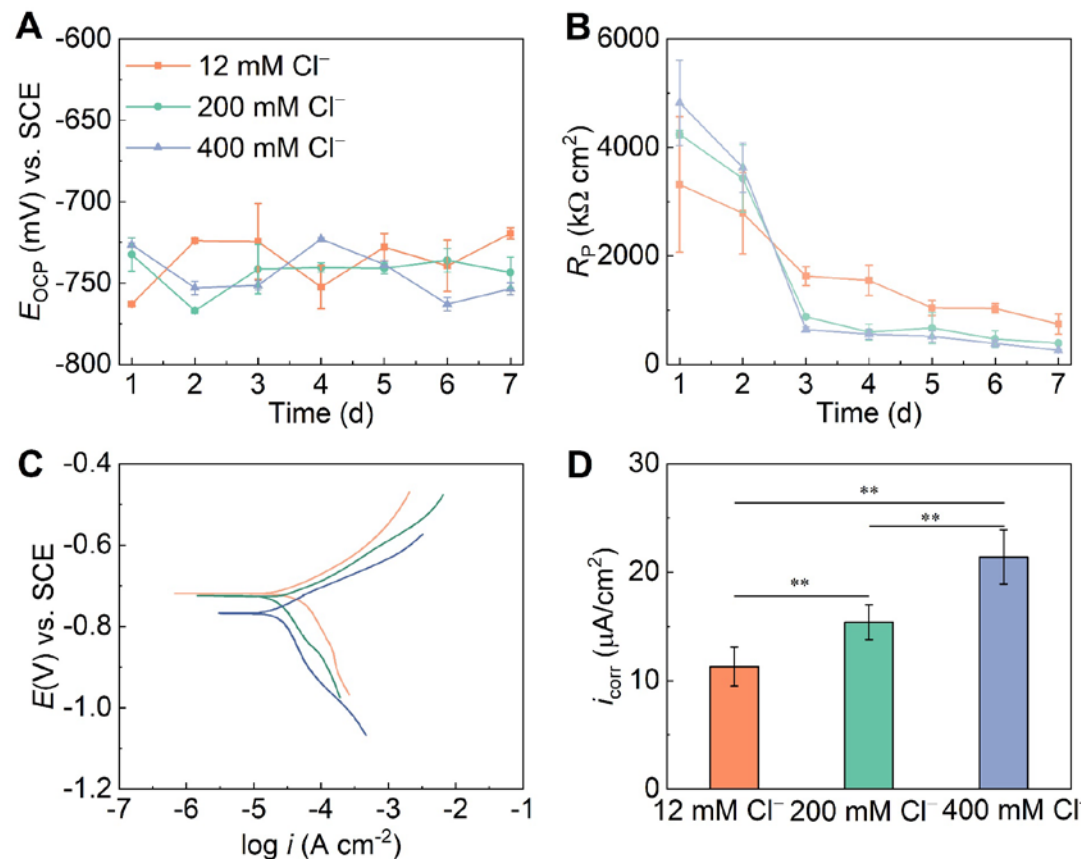


CLSM images of *D. vulgaris* cells on Fe⁰.



Influence of chloride on *D. vulgaris* Fe⁰ corrosion.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field



Electrochemistry of Cl on *D. vulgaris* Fe⁰ corrosion

Fe⁰ was corroded faster at higher c_{Cl^-} .

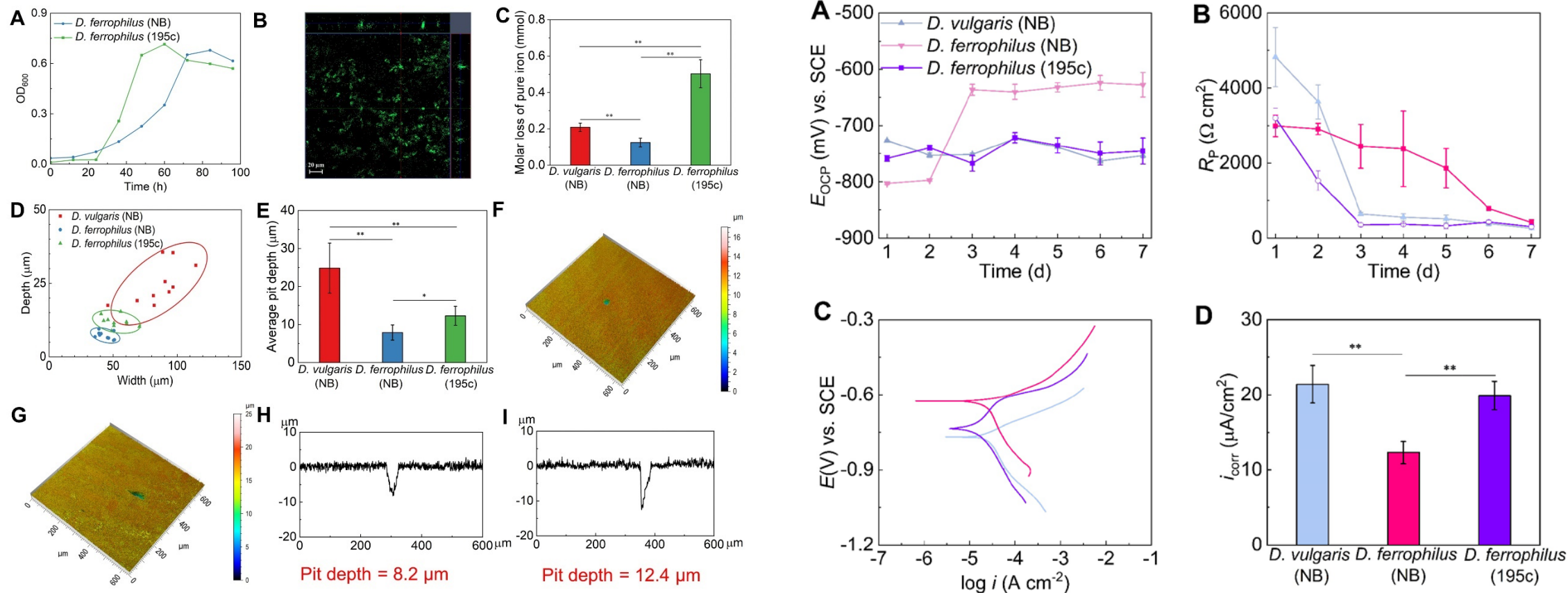
Analysis of corrosion products with EDS and XRD

Corrosion products: iron sulfide or iron oxide;

Corrosion product formation was not influenced.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Corrosion rates in the presence of *D. ferrophilus* are media-dependent



Corrosion in the presence of *D. ferrophilus* was also evaluated in the 195C and NB media.

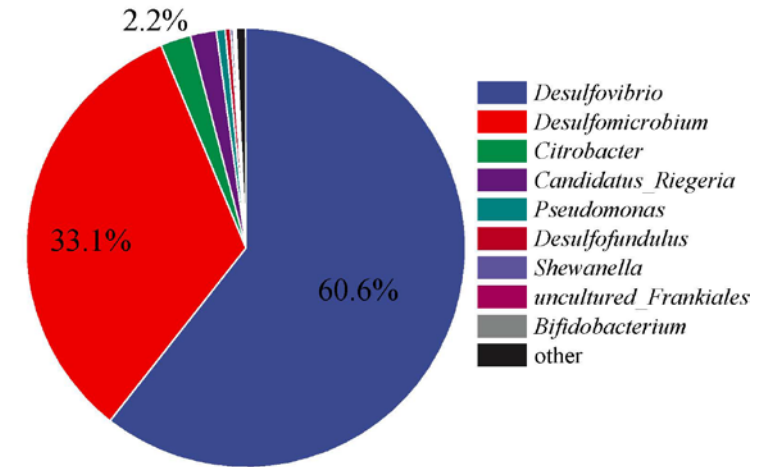
Fe⁰ was corroded faster in the presence of *D. vulgaris* than *D. ferrophilus* in the same marine NB medium.

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The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Shale microbiome MIC mitigated by biocide combined with D-AA

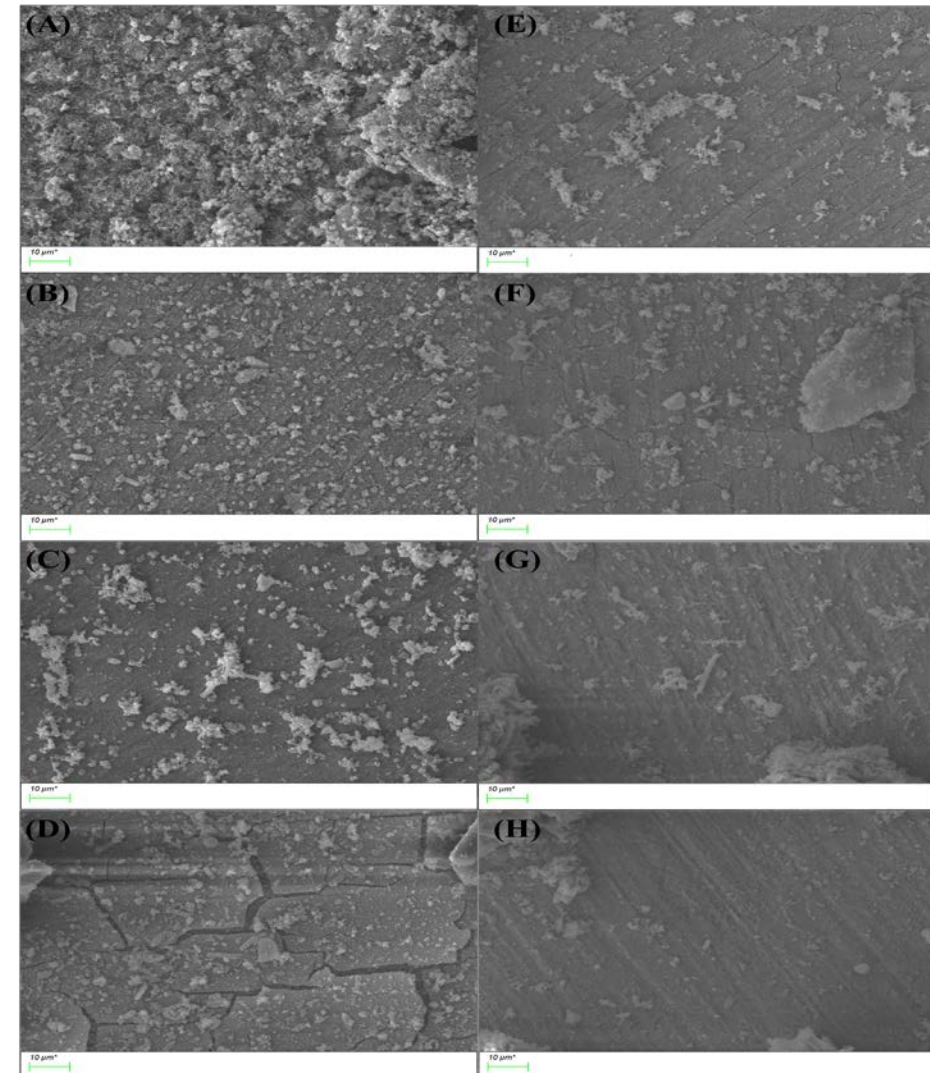
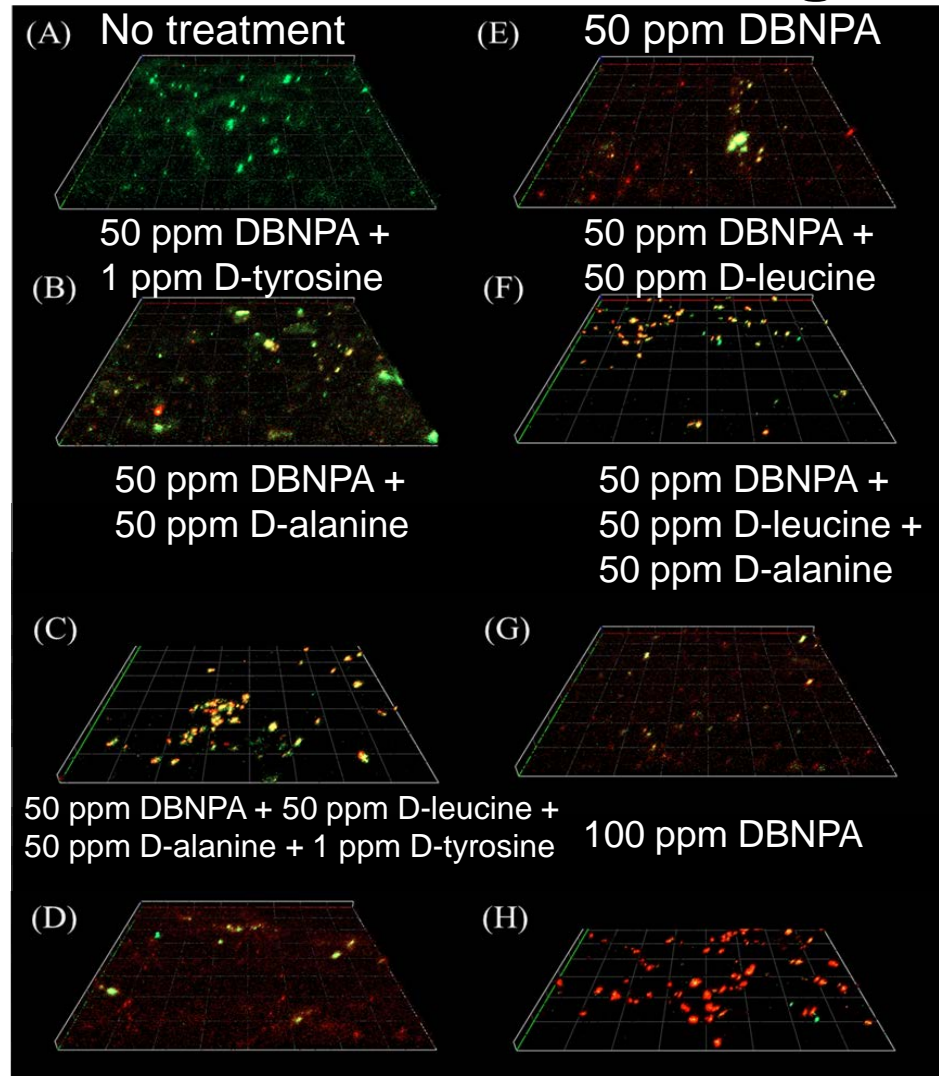


Microbial community from Weiyuan, Sichuan shale platform

Desulfovibrio and *Desulfomicrobium* bacteria dominated in tested shale gas microbiome

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

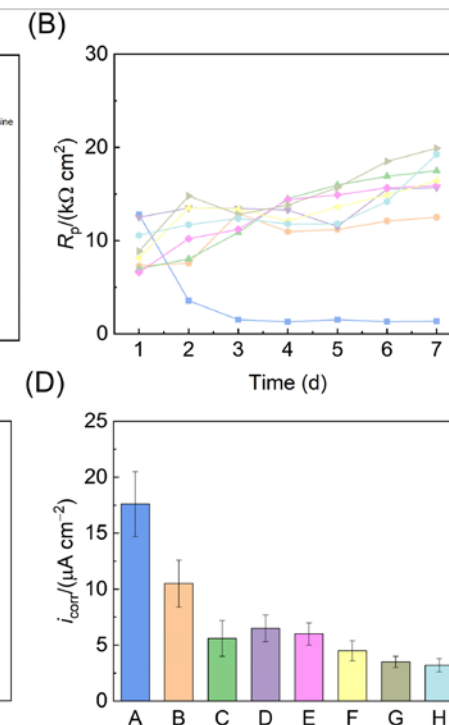
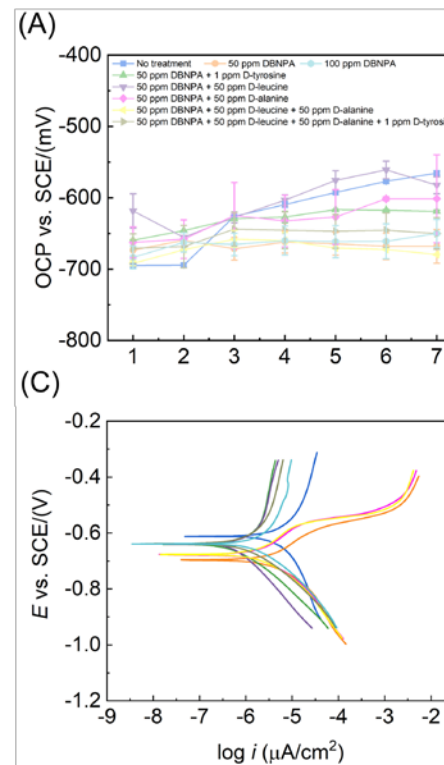
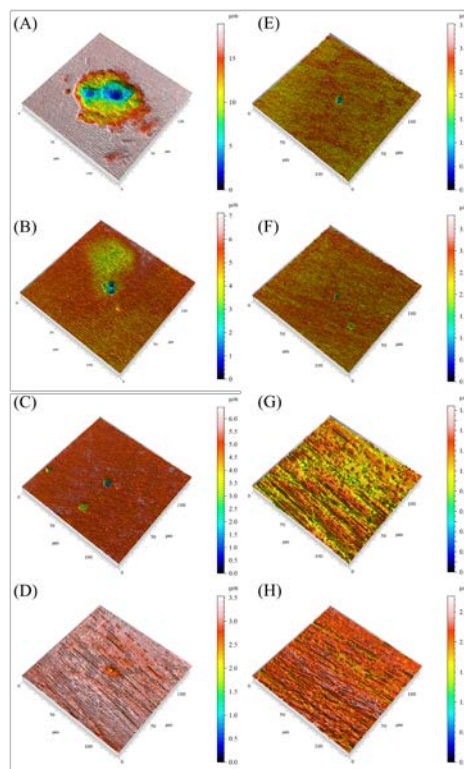
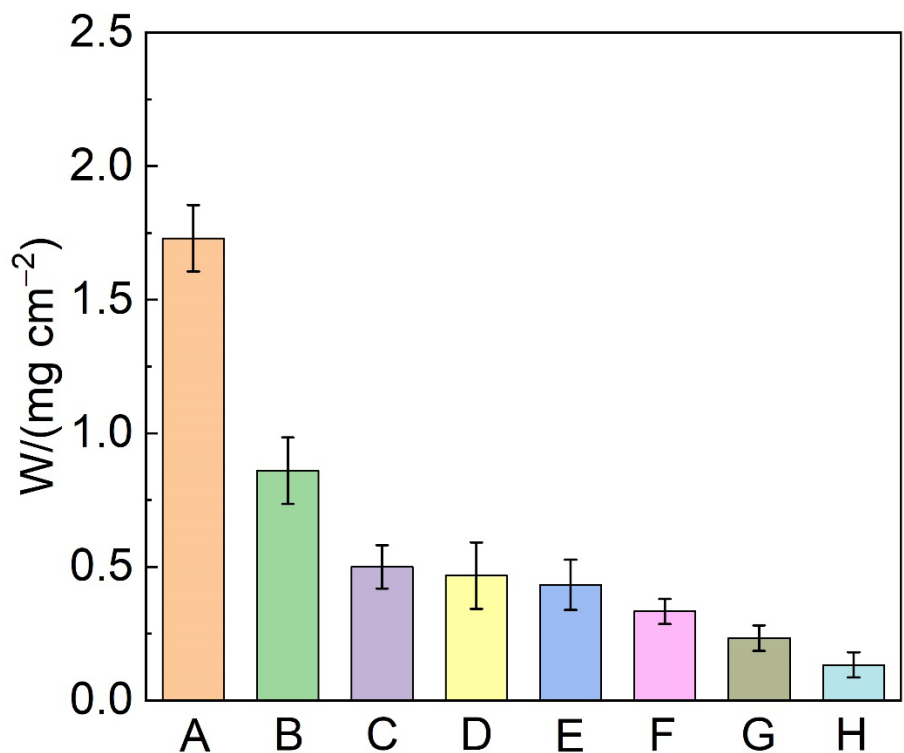
Shale microbiome MIC mitigated by biocide combined with D-AA



Biofilm coverage reduced with the addition of D-amino acid

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Shale microbiome MIC mitigated by biocide combined with D-AA

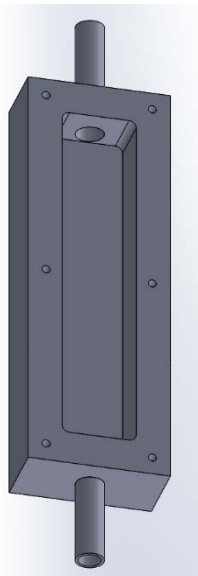


Corrosion and electrochemical analysis with different treatments

D-tyrosine at a low dosage of 1 ppm enhanced DBNPA considerably

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Peptide (loop D-AA) as biocide enhancer mitigate oil MIC in flow loop



(A) No treatment (B) 50 ppm THPS (C) 50 ppm THPS + 100 nM Peptide A (D) 100 ppm THPS

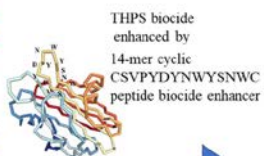
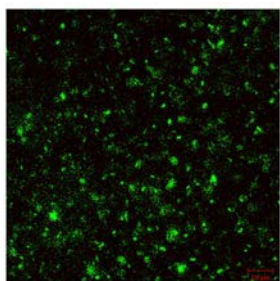


(A) No treatment (B) 50 ppm THPS (C) 50 ppm THPS + 100 nM Peptide A (D) 100 ppm THPS

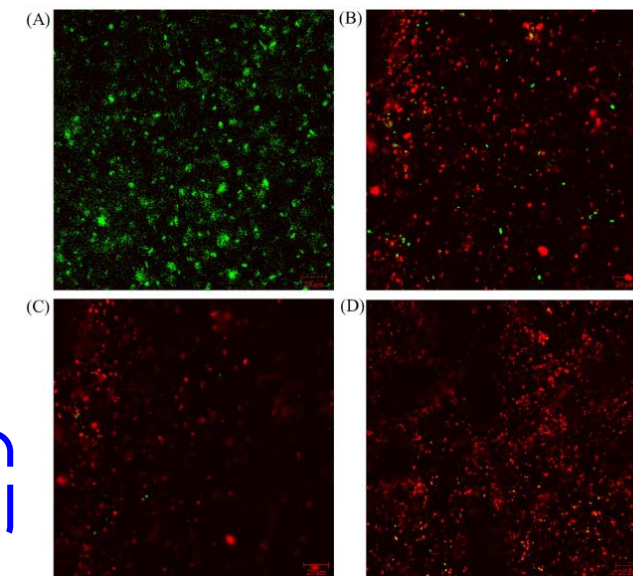
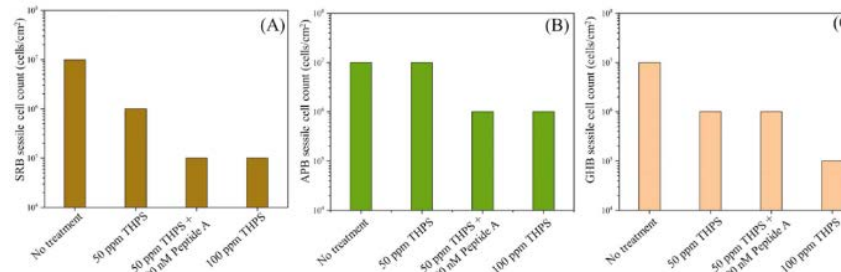
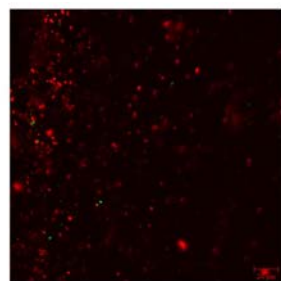
Microbial Consortium

Microbe	%
<i>Garciella</i> spp.	92.1
<i>Desulfovibrio vulgaris</i>	3.1
<i>Bacillales</i> spp.	3.0
<i>Tissierella</i> spp.	0.88
<i>Thermoanaerobacterales</i> spp.	0.13
<i>Porphyromonadaceae</i> spp.	0.11
<i>Sphingomonas</i> spp.	0.07
Unknown	0.63

Flow loop in anaerobic chamber



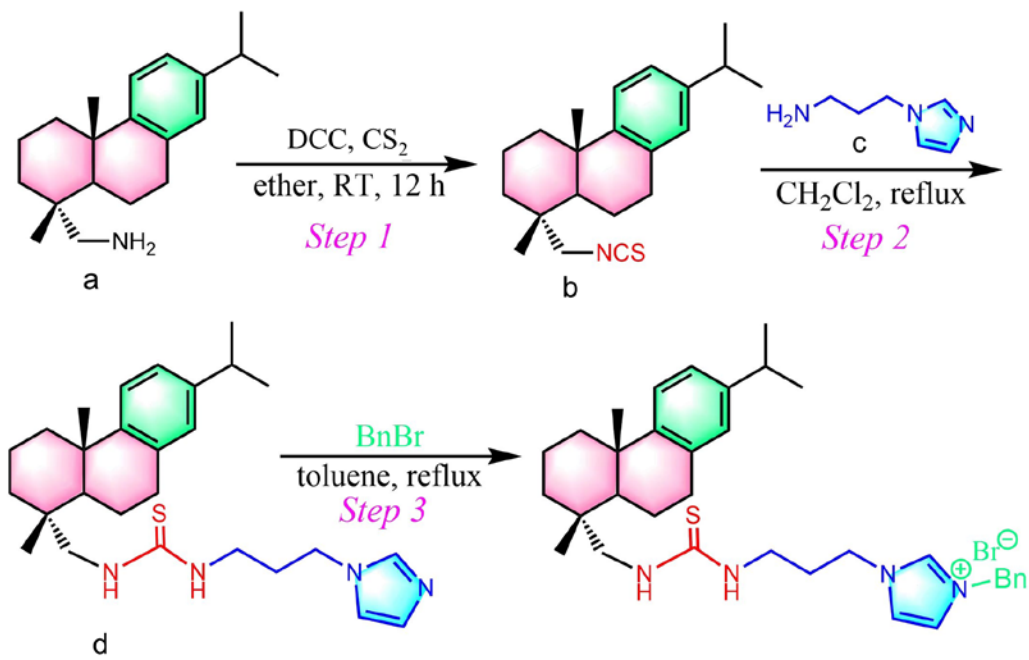
Biofilm prevention test



Peptide enhance DBNPA mitigated MIC caused by Consortium from oil field

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

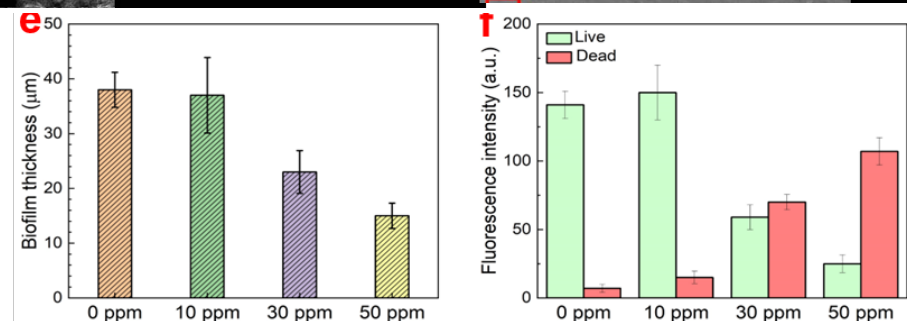
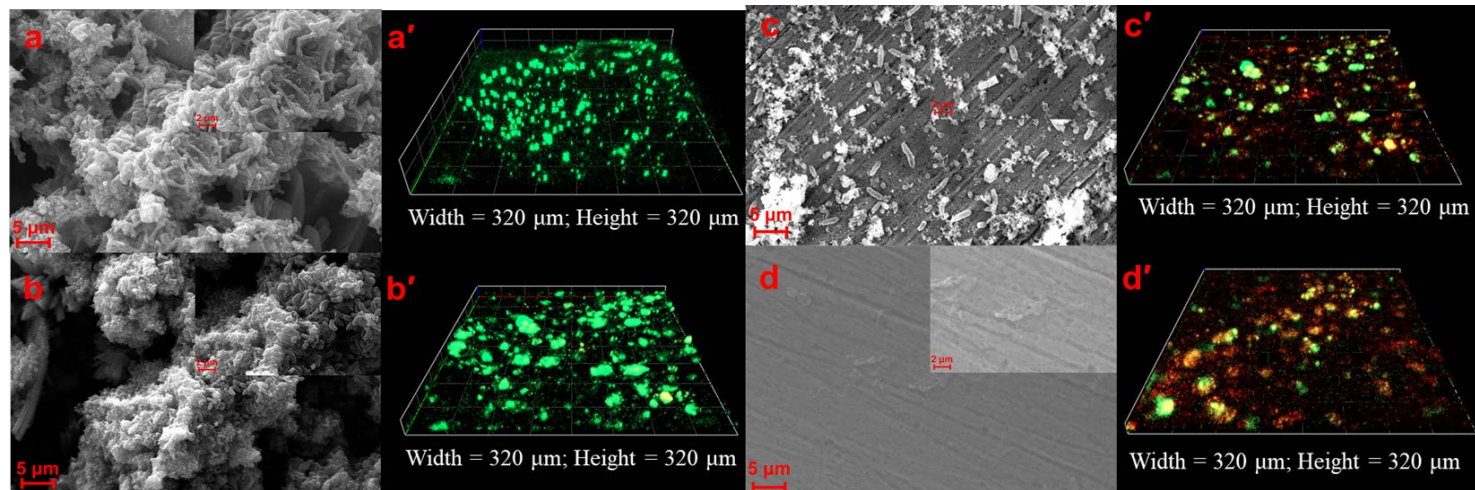
Eco-friendly RTIQAS synthesis and performance



RTIQAS synthesis

Rosin linked with QAS

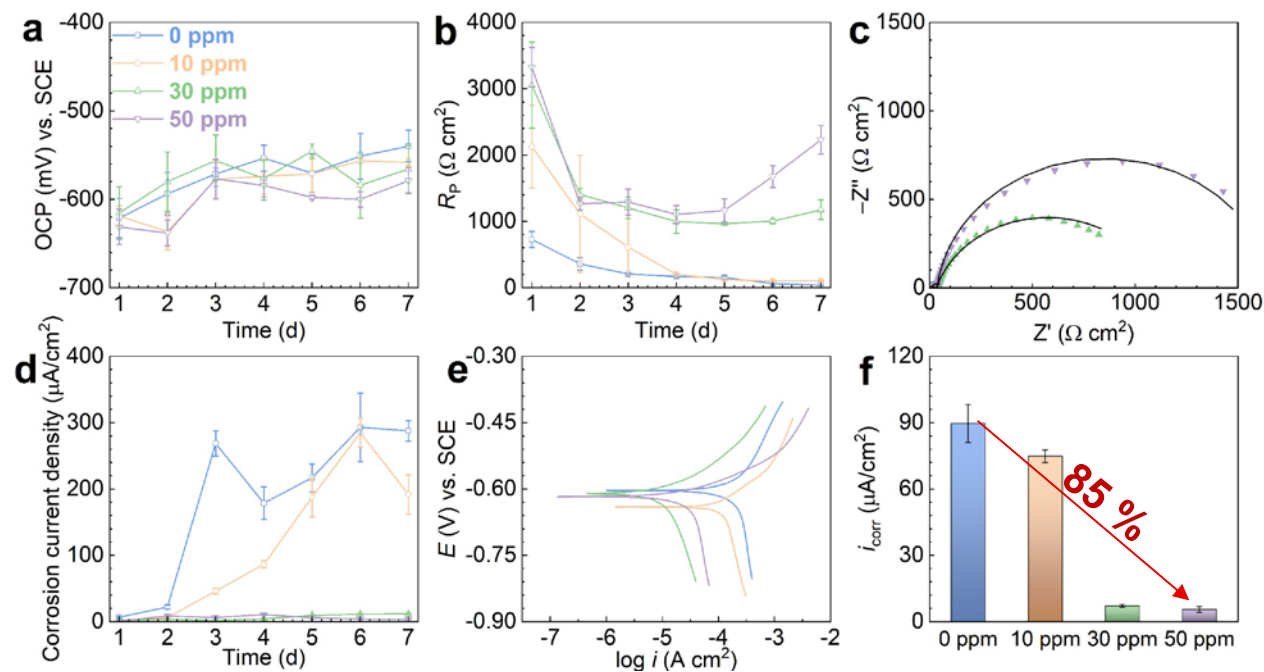
50 ppm RTIQAS killed most *D. vulgaris* cells on X80 surface.



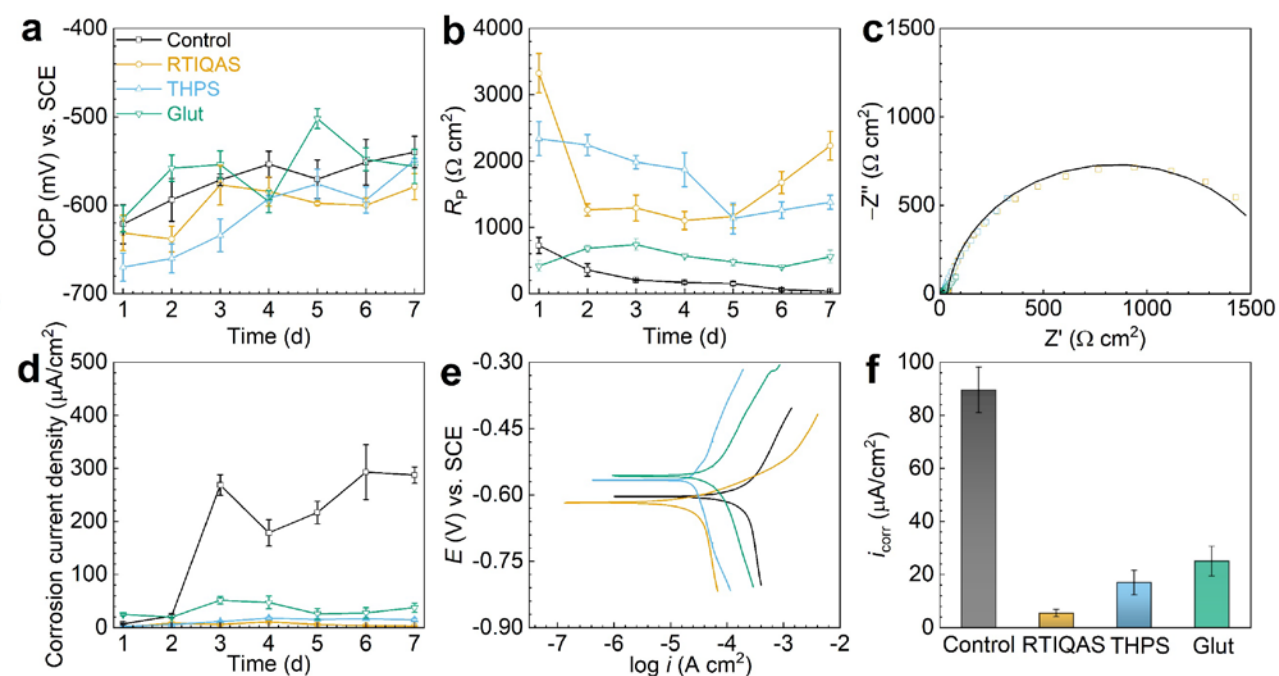
SEM, CLSM, and fluorescence with different treatments

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Electrochemical tests



Different RTIQAS against *D. vulgaris* MIC



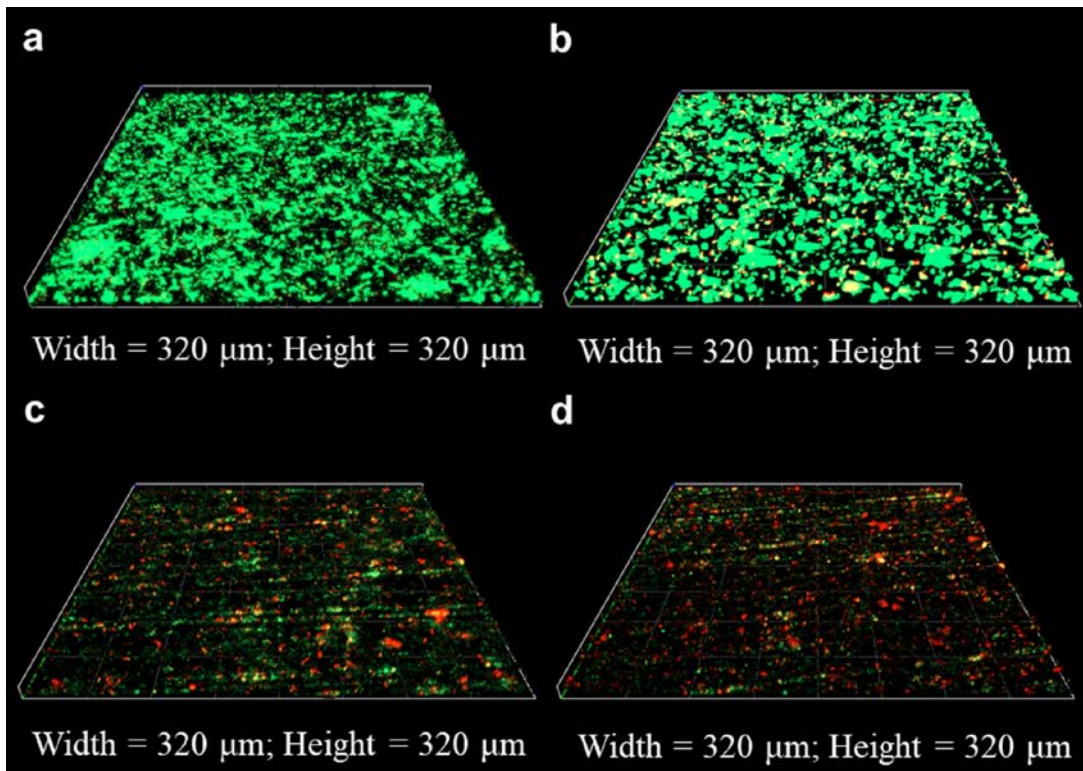
Control vs. RTIQAS, glutaraldehyde and THPS

Electrochemical data supported weight loss

RTIQAS is better than THPS and glutaraldehyde

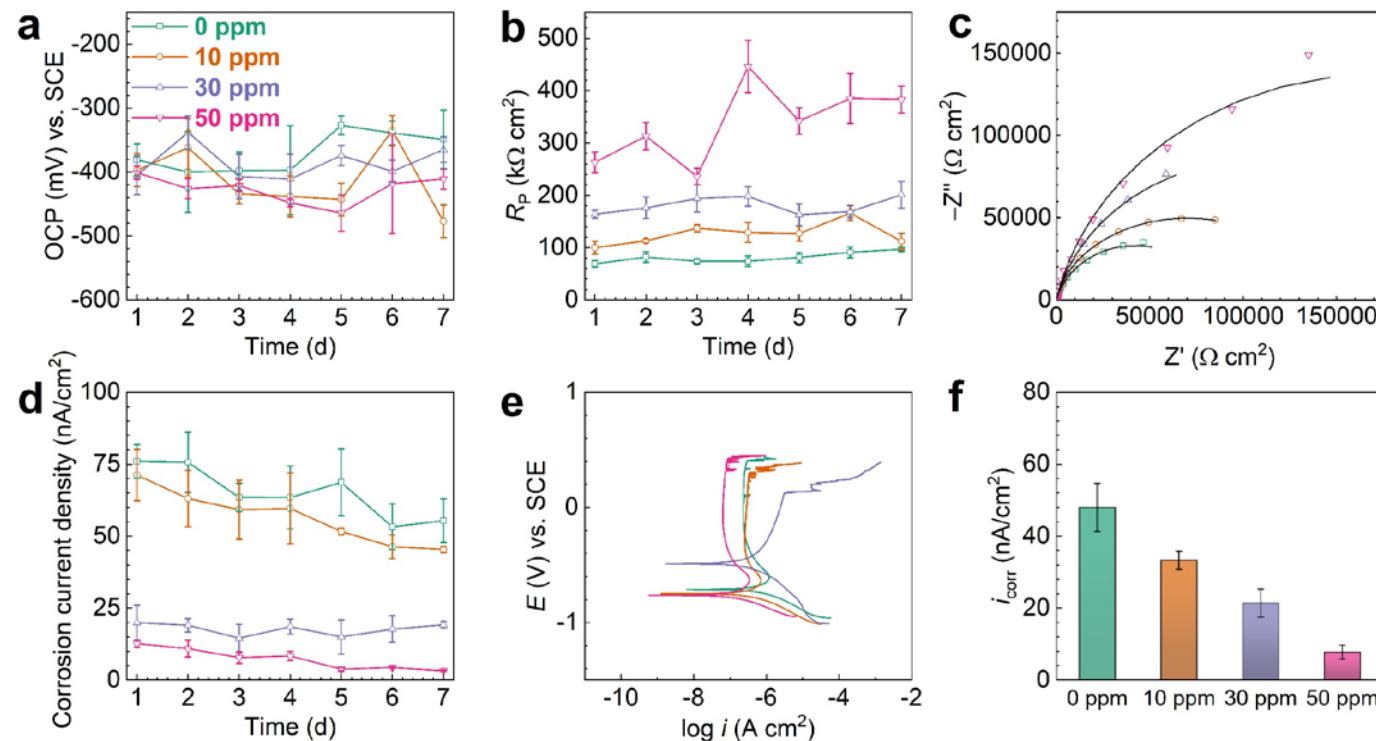
The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

RTIQAS against 316L stainless steel MIC by aerobic *B. licheniformis* biofilm



Biofilm under CLSM

Antibacterial ability against aerobic biofilm

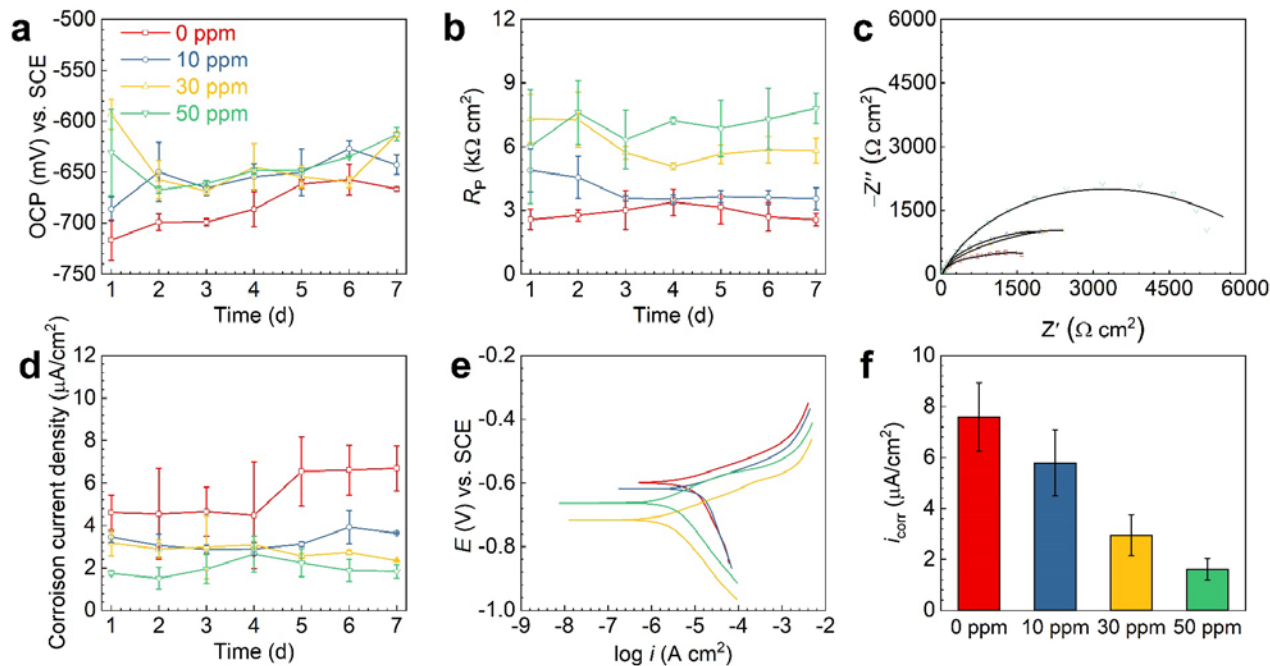


Electrochemical results

Corrosion inhibition of *B. licheniformis* MIC

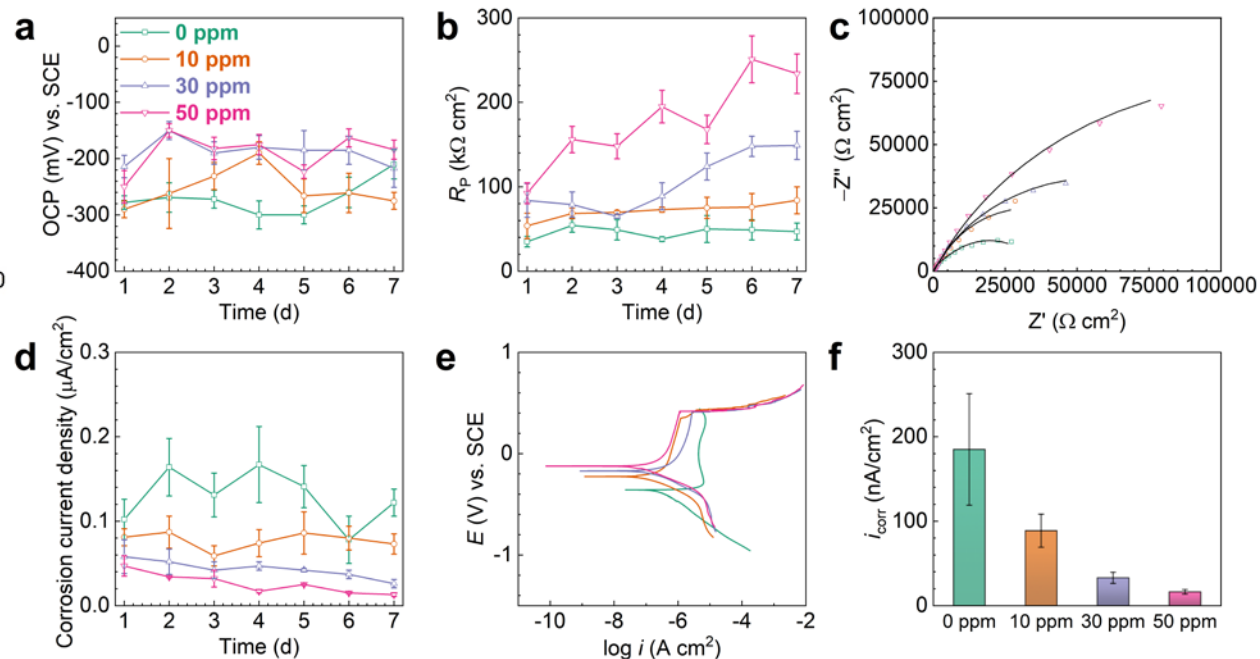
The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Corrosion inhibition of RTIQAS in abiotic condition



X80 carbon steel in abiotic anaerobic medium

79% ↓



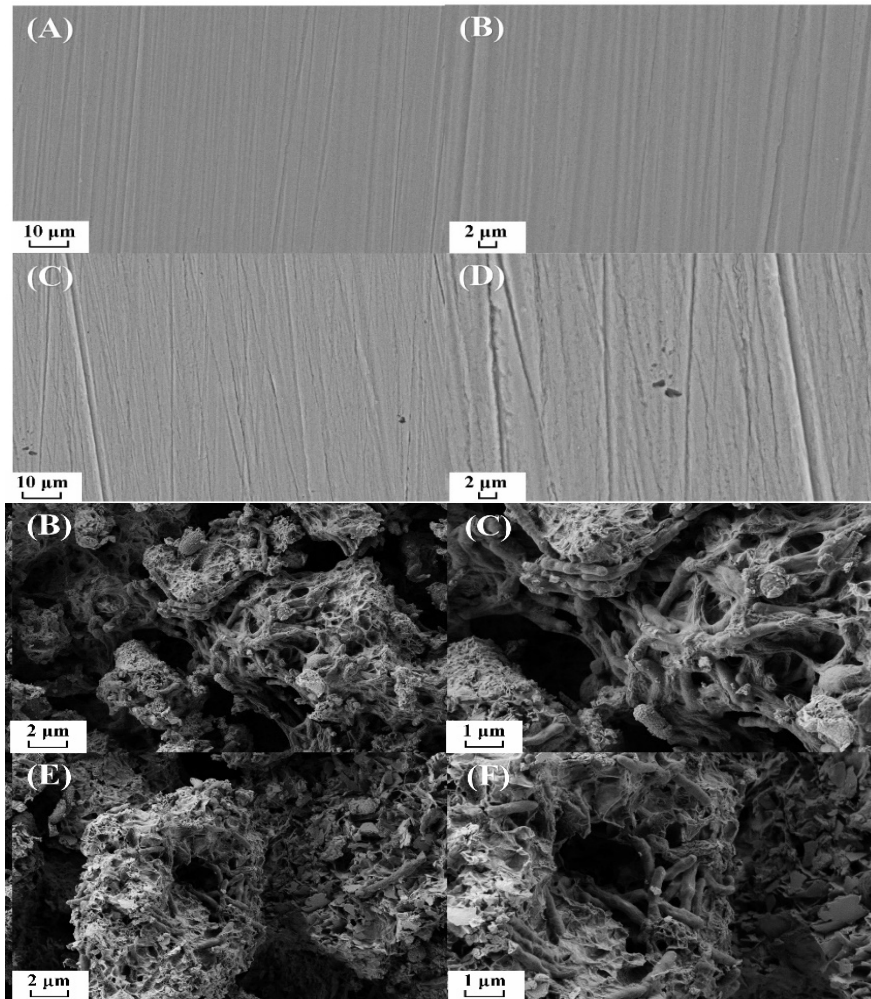
316L stainless steel in abiotic medium

91% ↓

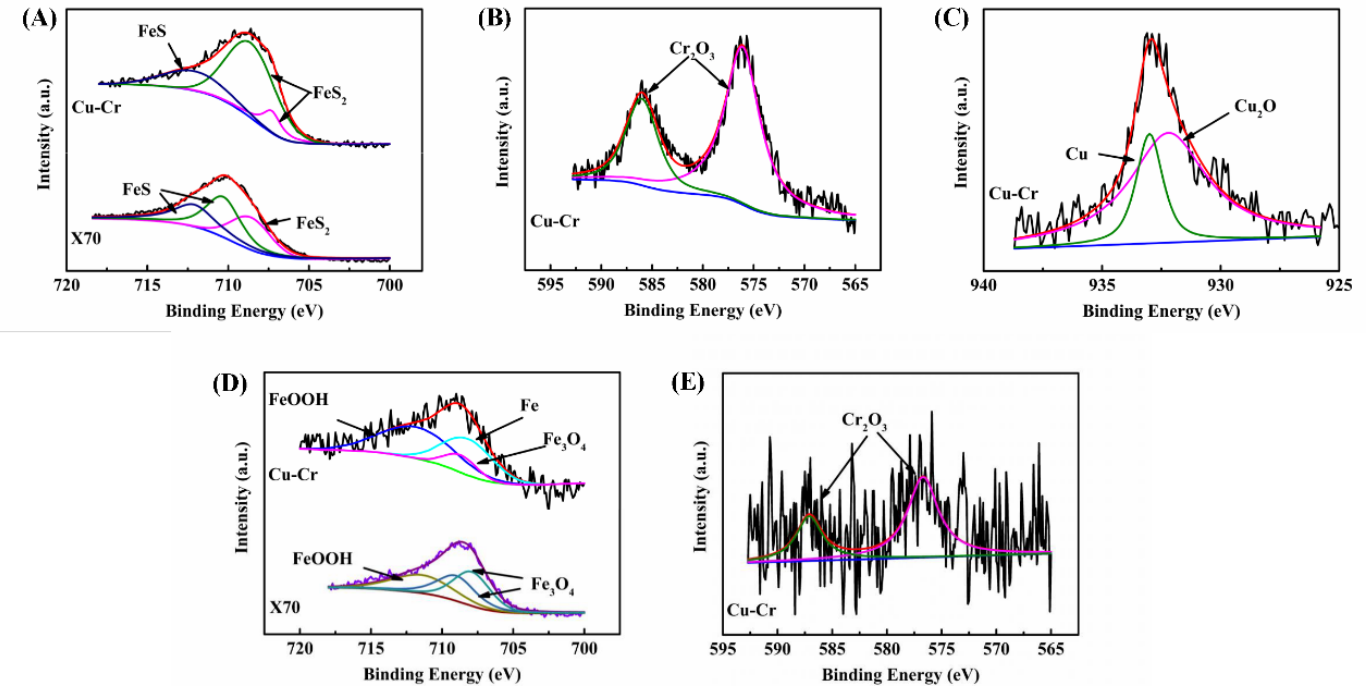
The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Anti MIC performance of RCB steel with Cu-Cr addition produced by China Baowu

X70 vs. RCB steel with Cu(1.87)-Cr(0.54)



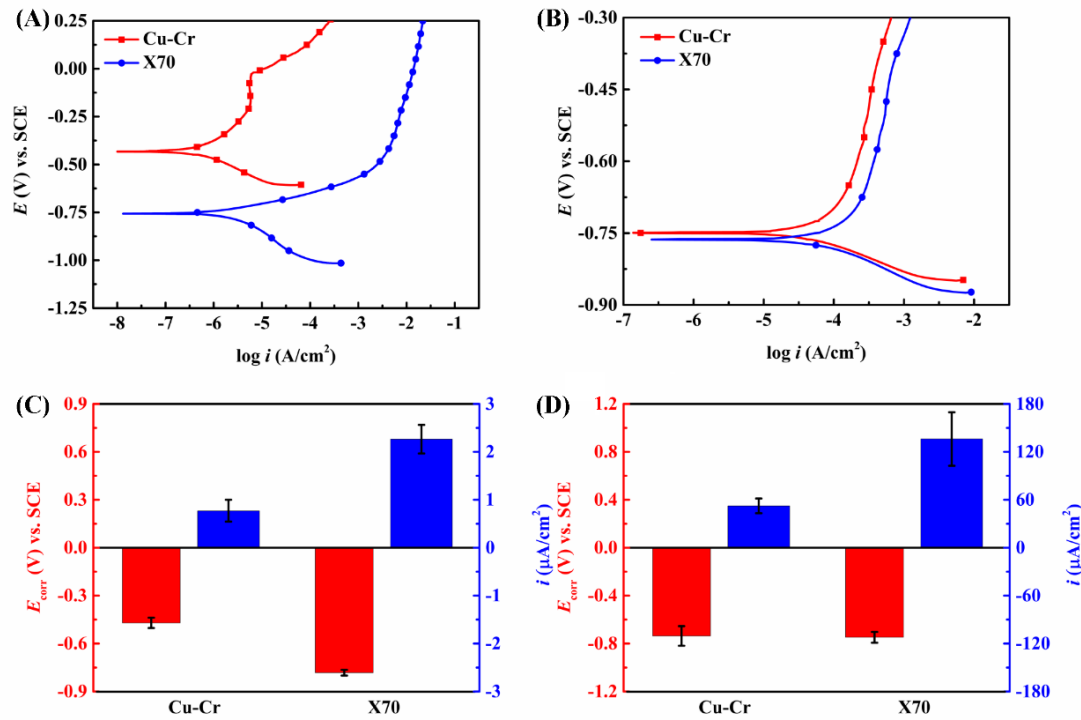
SEM comparison on X70 and RCB steels



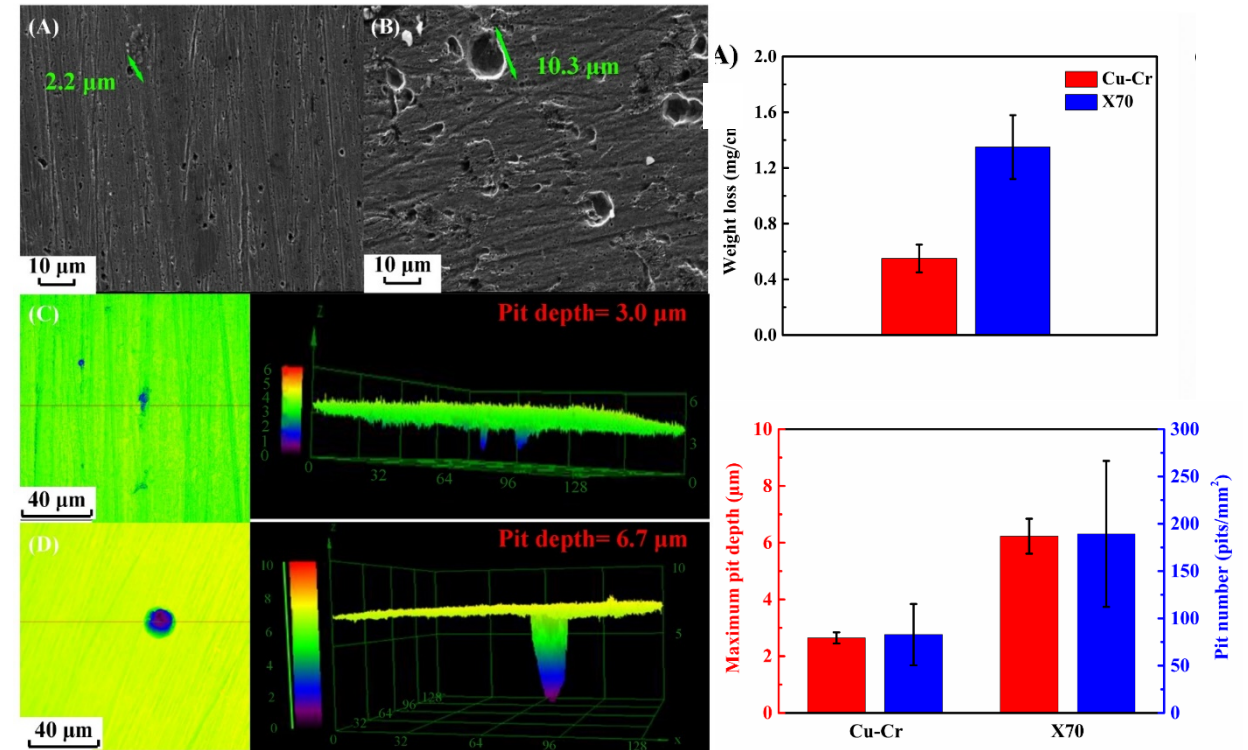
FeS is the main corrosion, Cr elements exist in the form of Cr₂O₃ on the surfaces of RCB steel

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

Anti MIC performance of RCB steel with Cu-Cr addition produced by China Baowu



Cu-Cr steel and X70 steel electrochemistry results



Cu-Cr steel and X70 steel corrosion in the presence of SRB

With Cu and Cr addition: i_{corr} , pitting, weight loss decreased, **but MIC occurred!**

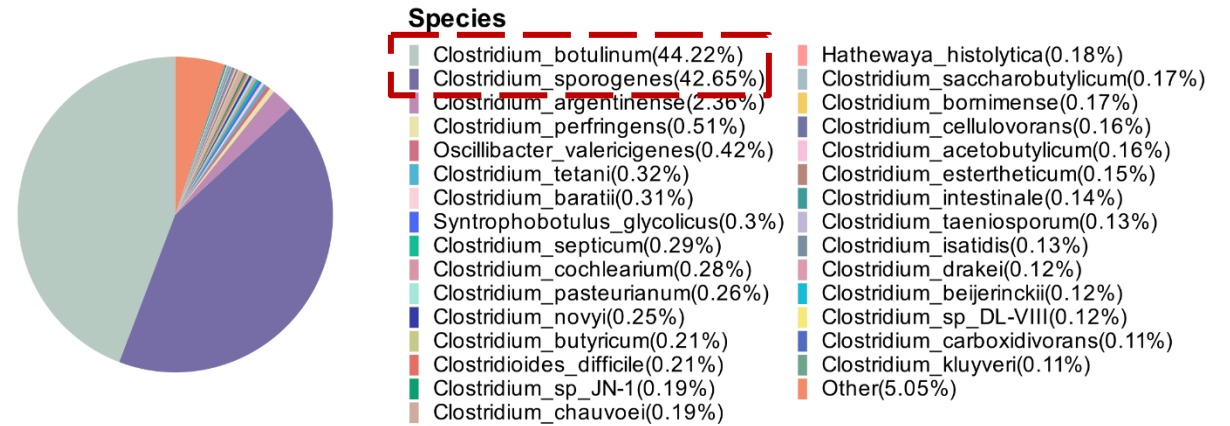
Contents

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Research background
- 3 Microbial corrosion mechanism
- 4 Microbial corrosion protection
- 5 Cases in real world

Microbial corrosion protection in oil and gas field

1 Microbiome collected from produced water of shale gas

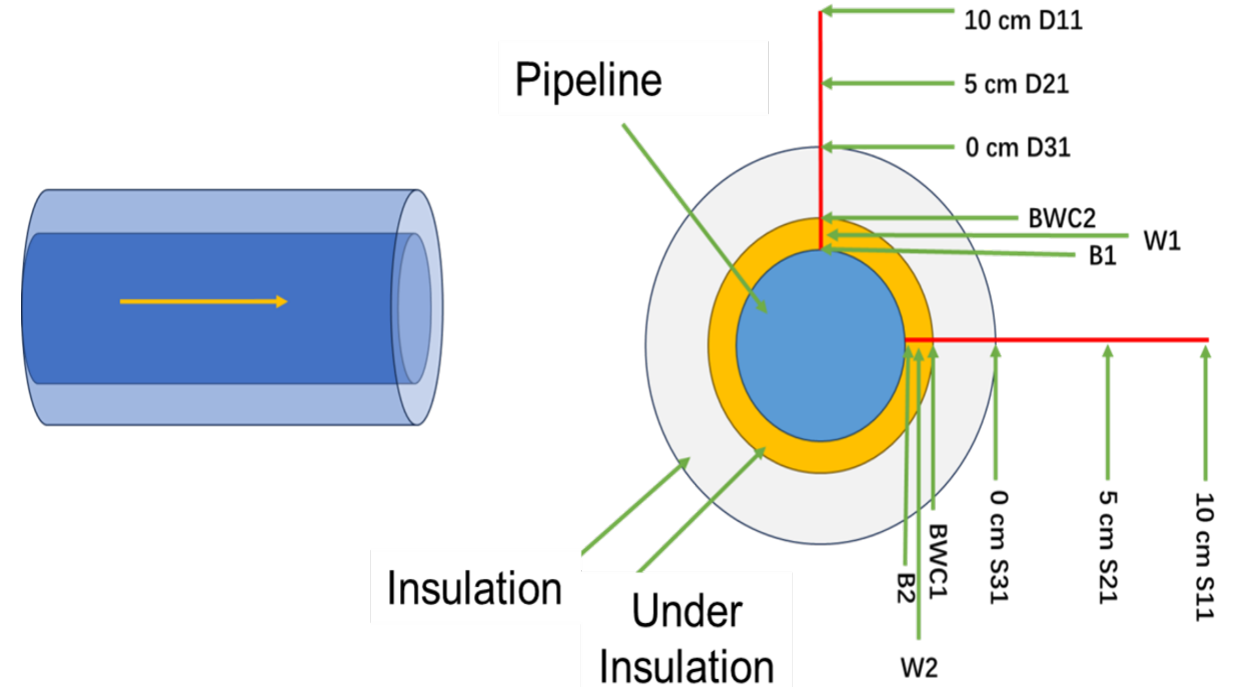
- **SRB might not necessarily present in shale gas fields;**
- *Clostridium* contributed to more than 90% of microbe composition;
- Different platforms might have different microbiomes;
- **Biocide treatment based on the microbiome composition.**



Microbial sampled collected from Weiyuan shale gas, Sichuan Basin

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

2 Microbiome collected under insulation



Pipeline Excavation and Repair

Schematic of sample collection

The microbial composition in different direction are totally different.

The mechanism and protection of microbial corrosion in oil and gas field

4

Modified Postgate's B Media (MPB) might not be universally applicable

Negative
*Opaque off-white
coloration*

Positive
*Iron Sulfide
Precipitate*



- MPB Media was formulated by SRB research pioneer John Postgate in 1975;
- MPB Media is the **NACE TM-0194 standard** for the cultivation of SRB;
- However, standard might not totally right;
- High chloride in shale gas, low chloride in MPB media.

Thanks for your attention!

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