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塔里木盆地中高氮天然气的成因 及其与天然气聚集的关系^①

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摘要 塔里木盆地塔北和塔中地区的海相腐泥型天然气, N₂ 含量较高, 尤其是湿气, N₂ 含量分布在 10.1% ~ 36.2%, 而干气的 N₂ 含量则低于 10%, 即湿气的 N₂ 含量高于干气的 N₂ 含量。同是下古生界寒武—奥陶系来源的海相腐泥型天然气, 为什么湿气和干气的氮气含量相差如此之大? 根据与氮气相伴生的烃类气体、非烃气体及稀有气体的组份及同位素特征, 认为塔里木盆地的中高氮天然气属于有机成因, 来源于下古生界海相烃源岩。文章还提出塔北和塔中地区湿气和干气 N₂ 含量差异与源岩的演化程度和圈闭的捕获条件有关。

关键词 塔里木盆地 中高氮天然气 有机成因 湿气 干气 捕获条件

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塔里木盆地塔中隆起和塔北隆起上发现很多天然气藏, 层位为奥陶系、石炭系、三叠系和侏罗系储层。目前的研究认为这些天然气来自下古生界的寒武—奥陶系海相烃源岩^[1], 属于海相腐泥型天然气。从天然气组成看, 湿气的 N₂ 含量较高, 为 10.1% ~ 36.2%, 而干气的 N₂ 含量则低于 10%, 大部分为 3% ~ 7%。按国外 N₂ 含量大于 15% 定为高氮天然气的划分标准, 湿气属于中高氮含量的天然气, 而干气则属于中低氮含量的天然气。Brooss 和 Likte^[2,3] 研究德国北部 Rotliegend 和 Bunstandstein 盆地二叠系高含量的有机成因的 N₂ 气藏 (N₂ 含量最高达 99%) 后, 提出这种高 N₂ 气藏的形成与源岩的演化程度和天然气聚集条件密切相关, 并指出如不搞清楚这种高氮天然气的成因, 就意味着天然气的勘探要冒更大的风险。因为高氮气藏的形成与源岩演化和圈闭形成时间有密切的联系。塔北和塔中地区同是下古生界海相腐泥型有机质来源的天然气, 为什么干气和湿气的 N₂ 含量相差如此之大? 它与气藏的形成有何关系? 因此搞清这个问题, 对塔北和塔中地区天然气成藏研究以及天然气勘探均有重要意义。文章根据烃类气体、非烃气体及稀有气体的组成及同位素的特征, 研究了塔里木盆地中高氮天然气的成因, 指出塔北与塔中地区湿气和干气的氮气含量差异与源岩的演化程度及圈闭的捕获时间有关。

1 N₂ 的分布特征

按照 М.Л.За Р.Жина^[4] 的分类, N₂ 含量小于 5% 为低 N₂ 气藏, N₂ 含量为 6% ~ 15% 为中等含量的 N₂ 气藏, 大于 15% 为高含量 N₂ 气藏。塔北和塔中隆起的天然气, N₂ 的含量分布在 1.61% ~ 36.2%, 其中湿气的 N₂ 含量为 10.1% ~ 36.2%, 属于中高氮的天然气, 它们主要以油田伴生气的形式存在。而干气的氮气含量低于 10%, 属于中低氮的天然气, 并主要以凝析气的形式存在。从区域上看, 中高氮天然气分布在塔北隆起英买力奥陶系、东河塘石炭系储层以及塔中地区石炭系和奥陶系的储层(图 1), 而低氮天然气分布在

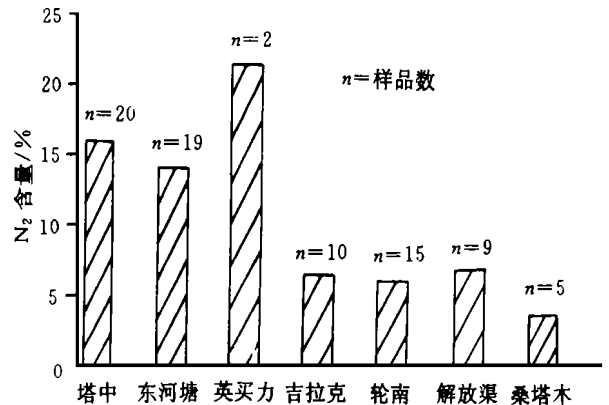


图 1 塔中和塔北地区天然气的氮气含量分布图
Fig. 1 N₂ content distribution diagram of gases

in Tazhong and Tabei area

① 九五国家重点科技攻关项目“塔里木盆地特殊类型天然气的成因及分布规律”的部分研究内容

塔北的吉拉克、解放渠东、轮南及桑塔木地区。从图 2 和图 3 可看出, 天然气氮气含量的高低与天然气的成熟度有关, 干燥系数小、甲烷碳同位素轻的英买力、东河塘和塔中地区的天然气 N_2 含量高于干燥系数大、甲烷碳同位素重的吉拉克、解放渠东、轮南及桑塔木地区干气的 N_2 含量。这种高 N_2 天然气与干燥系数小、甲烷碳同位素轻, 而低 N_2 天然气与干燥系数大、甲烷碳同位素重的天然气相匹配的关系, 暗示着天然气的 N_2 含量与天然气的成熟度有密切的关系。

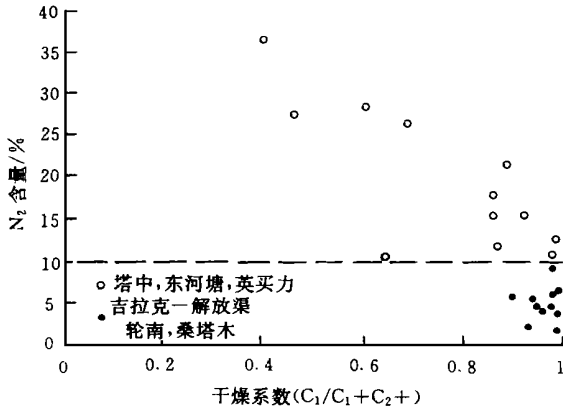


图 2 天然气干燥系数与氮气含量关系图

Fig. 2 Relationship diagram between gas dry coefficient and N_2 content in Tazhong and Tabei area

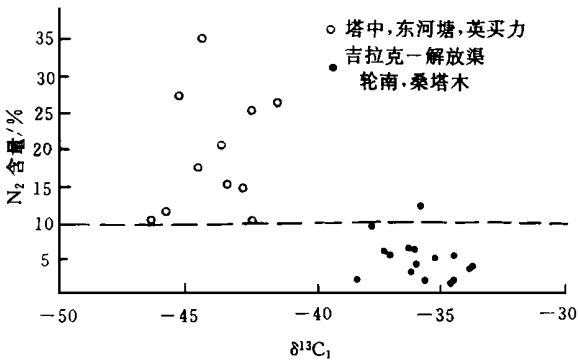


图 3 天然气甲烷碳同位素与氮气含量关系图

Fig. 3 Relationship diagram between $\delta^{13}C_1$ and N_2 content

2 氮气的成因

2.1 天然气 N_2 的成因

氮气的来源比较复杂(图 4), 影响 $\delta^{15}N$ 变化的机理尚不清楚, 目前没有一种成熟的方法判断其成因。虽然国内有些学者曾用氮同位素来研究其成因^[5], 但不同类型的天然气氮的同位素分布范围相当或重叠^[6,7], 标准也难以建立, 因此本文根据与 N_2 相伴生的烃类气体、非烃气体及稀有气体的组分及同位素特征来研究氮气的成因。

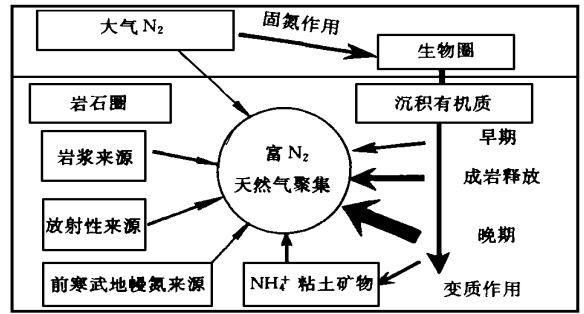


图 4 N_2 来源的演化图(Broos and Litta, 1995)

Fig. 4 Sources of molecular nitrogen in nature gas

烃类气体的甲烷碳同位素值表明它属于有机成因, 并来自下古生界海相烃源岩^[1]。由于天然气中二氧化碳的碳同位素 ($\delta^{13}C_{CO_2}$) 分布在 ($-13.6\text{‰} \sim -21.8\text{‰}$), 轻于戴金星^[8] 提出的有机成因的天然气 ($\delta^{13}C_{CO_2}$ 小于 -10‰ 的标准, 因此二氧化碳属于有机成因; 稀有气体 $^3He/^4He$ 同位素比值分布在 $1.86 \times 10^{-7} \sim 8.2 \times 10^{-8}$ ^[9], 小于刘文汇等^[9] 报道的有机成因气 $^3He/^4He$ 比值小于 1.4×10^{-6} (一般为 $10^{-7} \sim 10^{-8}$ 数量级); 另外天然气中氦气和二氧化碳的含量未出现异常, 可排除火山成因气混入的可能, 因为如有火山喷发气的混入, 氦气和二氧化碳的含量会大量增高^[10,11]; 另外 Ar/N_2 也未见异常, 可排除古空气混入的可能, 并且天然气中 N_2 含量的高低只与天然气干燥系数的大小及甲烷碳同位素的轻重有关, 因此认为 N_2 属于有机成因, 且来自下古生界烃源岩。

2.2 有机质演化过程中 N_2 含量的变化

高岗等^[2] 对约旦灰岩的热模拟实验结果表明, 成熟阶段 ($R_o = 1.0\%$) 源岩释放的 N_2 含量较高, 随后 N_2 的含量降低; 而泥岩在高成熟阶段 ($R_o > 1.5\%$) 时释放的 N_2 含量较高, 这个结果与国外的模拟实验结果一致^[2], 说明 N_2 的释放机理与有机质的类型和演化程度相关(图 5), 泥页岩的氮气释放时间晚于碳酸盐岩。笔者认为这与氮在有机质中的赋存形式不同有关, 泥页岩及煤系有机质, 既有成岩作用过程中结合在干酪根或被粘土矿物吸附的有机氮, 也有以 NH_4^+ 取代混层粘土矿物中的 K^+ 离子而形成的铵基粘土矿物(如伊利石, 蒙脱石等)^[12], 这种无机氮也称作“固定

① 申建中等. 国家九五重点科技攻关项目“塔北塔中地区天然气同位素地球化学特征与气源研究”. 1998

② 郝石生等. 国家八五重点攻关项目“塔里木盆地古生界海相烃源岩地球化学特征热演化和成烃模式”. 1995

氮”(Fixed-NH₄)^[13~17]。这种“固定氮”稳定性好,一般情况下不易释放,也不易与混层粘土矿物发生离子交换作用^[18],只有在高成熟的条件下才能释放出来并形成氮气。模拟实验也证明温度高于700℃时,这种“固定氮”才释放出来,1000℃时含量达到最高^[2]。而碳酸盐岩,由于缺乏粘土矿物,成岩作用过程中难以与混层粘土矿物发生离子交换作用形成铵基粘土矿物,含氮化合物只能被有机质吸附或以化学键的形式结合在干酪根中,到成熟阶段就释放出来,形成原油中的含氮化合物和天然气中的N₂,因此生油高峰释放的氮气含量高,而晚期释放的氮气含量则低得多。由此可见氮气含量的变化受源岩类型和演化程度的控制,对于相同类型的源岩,则受演化程度的控制。

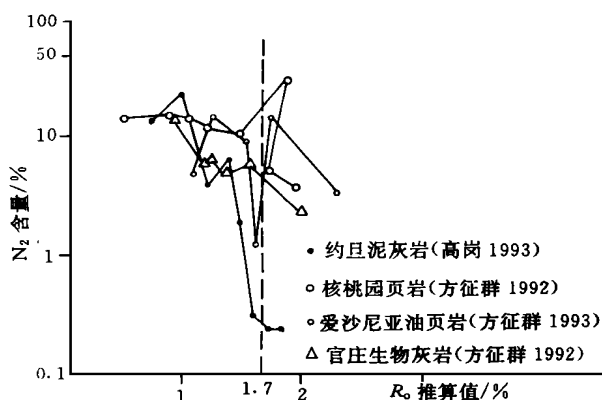


图5 热模拟实验过程中N₂产率与R_o变化曲线

(引自高岗, 1995)

Fig. 5 Relationship diagram between N₂ production rate and R_o during simulation experiment (from Gao Gang, 1995)

2.3 N₂含量变化与源岩演化程度及油气富集的关系

为什么同是下古生界海相腐泥型有机质来源的天然气,干气和湿气的N₂含量相差如此之大?如前文所述,由于天然气来自下古生界源岩,岩性主要是泥灰岩。碳酸盐岩有机质中蛋白质含量较高,而蛋白质是由多种氨基酸组成的高分子化合物,在低到成熟阶段,有机质中的蛋白质以氨的形式释放出肽键中的氨,或被细菌作用生成N₂及其它含氮化合物。又由于氮气含量的变化受成熟度的控制,因此源岩在不同演化阶段圈闭捕获的天然气的氮气含量会发生变化,生油高峰期圈闭捕获的天然气的氮气含量较高,而生油高峰之后捕获的天然气的氮气含量相对较低。

塔中、东河塘石炭系和英买力奥陶系的天然气N₂含量较高,甲烷碳同位素轻,为-41.30‰~-46.30‰,甲烷碳同位素的差值较大,反映天然气的成熟度较低,圈闭捕获了源岩在生油高峰期生成的氮气含量较高的天然气。针对该区的地质条件,油气

应来自构造附近处在成熟阶段的奥陶系或寒武系的源岩。

塔北的吉拉克、解放渠东、轮南及桑塔木地区的天然气N₂含量较低,甲烷的碳同位素比塔中、东河塘石炭系和英买力奥陶系的天然气重,为-41.30‰~-46.30‰,甲烷碳同位素的差值小,为-0.12‰~-3.3‰,说明源岩在生油高峰期生成的N₂含量较高的天然气已经散失,目前圈闭捕获的天然气的氮气含量较低。这一认识也与该区的地质条件相符,塔北地区寒武-奥陶系源岩早期生成的油气及形成的油气藏由于加里东和海西运动抬升而遭破坏,目前圈闭捕获的天然气的氮气含量比湿气低。

3 结论

(1) 塔里木盆地塔北和塔中地区的天然气氮气含量较高,尤其是湿气,属于中高氮天然气,而干气的氮气含量较低,属于中低氮天然气。与天然气相伴生的非烃气体、稀有气体的组成及同位素特征表明,氮气属于有机成因,来源于下古生界海相烃源岩;

(2) 由于含氮化合物在泥页岩和碳酸盐岩源岩中的赋存形式不同,导致含氮化合物的释放及氮气的形成机理不相同。对于碳酸盐岩,含氮化合物以吸附或化学键的形式结合到干酪根中,在低到高成熟阶段释放出来,形成氮气或其它含氮化合物,到高过阶段氮气的释放逐渐减少;而泥页岩中含氮化合物的赋存形式更为复杂,既有以化学键结合到干酪根中的有机氮也有以离子交换方式形成的铵基粘土矿物,在高一过成熟阶段形成的氮气含量较高,因此源岩类型和演化程度及天然气的捕获条件决定天然气中氮气的含量高低;

(3) 塔中和塔北地区湿气和干气氮气的含量差异与源岩的演化程度和圈闭的捕获时间有关,圈闭在生油高峰期捕获的天然气的氮气含量较高,生油高峰之后捕获的天然气的氮气含量较低,据此可用来研究天然气的成藏特征,对圈闭进行有效性评价。

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Molecular Nitrogen Genesis in Natural Gases and Relationship with Gas Accumulation History in Tarim Basin

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Abstract

Molecular nitrogen (N_2) content of marine sapropelic type gases derived from Lower Paleozoic source rock is high, ranging from 1.61 ~ 36.2 percent of molecular nitrogen. N_2 content of wet gases ranges from 10.1% to 36.2%, while dry gases less than 10%, it is to say that N_2 content of wet gases is higher than that of dry gases. Why is there large difference of N_2 content between wet gases and dry gases derived from the same type source rock? What relationship it has with gas migration and accumulation? Based on the composition and isotope geochemical characteristics of associated gases and non-hydrocarbon gases, as well as rare gas in nature gas, N_2 genesis and origin are ascertained in this paper. The study shows that natural gases of middle-high N_2 content belong to organic genesis, which is originated from lower Paleozoic marine carbonate source rock. It indicates that N_2 content difference between wet and dry gas has close relationship to source rock, maturity and natural gas accumulation history. For the same type source rock, N_2 content in gas is controlled by source rock maturity and entrapment conditions. Because of the difference of nitrogen existence form in organic matter of carbonate and mudstone or shale source rock, nitrogen is mainly combined in kerogen by chemical bond for carbonate source rock, but for mudstone or shale source rock, besides chemical bond, nitrogen is bonded in clay mineral by ion substitution form during organic matter maturation. Thermal simulation shows that nitrogen release mechanism is different for the different

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Research on the Relations between Geothermal History and Oil-Gas Generation in Jiudong Basin

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Abstract

Jiudong basin is formed by the stacking of two-stage different nature and different generation basin. It was rift basin from Early-Middle Jurassic to Early Cretaceous and squeezed sag basin since Cenozoic. The present geothermal gradient and heat flow of Jiudong basin is very low, of which the present geothermal gradient is $3.00\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/100\text{m}$ and the heat flow value is $51\text{ mW}/\text{m}^2$. In later Mesozoic, the palaeothermal gradient of Yinger depression, which reached $3.50\sim 4.20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/100\text{m}$, is higher than present thermal gradient. Thermal gradient of Jiudong basin has decreased since Cenozoic, Yinger depression has subsided on a large scale. The maturity of thermal evolution of source rocks in Yinger depression is controlled by present temperature. Research on the relations between geothermal history and oil-gas generation in Yinger depression indicate that Chijinbu Formation source rock of Lower Cretaceous have two stage of oil generation, i.e. Late Cretaceous and since Tertiary. Xiagou Formation and Zhonggou Formation source rocks of Lower Cretaceous only have one main stage of oil generation, main stage of oil generation is since Pliocene. It has good prospect for exploring oil in Yinger depression.

Key words Jiudong basin Yinger depression thermal gradient palaeotemperature stage of oil generation

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source rock. N_2 release capacity reaches peak at the generation peak for carbonate source rock, N_2 content of gases decreasing at the high-super maturity stage. While for mudstone or shale source rock, N_2 release capacity reaches peak at the high-super stage. Therefore, N_2 content of natural gas entrapped at different maturity stage of source different, N_2 content variation in natural gases can be used to reveal natural gas accumulation history, and also to evaluate trap effectiveness.

Lower N_2 content of dry gas in Tabei area demonstrates that oil and gas containing higher N_2 content at the generation peak have been lost, and that natural gas captured in the present traps is mainly originated from high-super maturity source rock. The above conclusion is supported by heavy methane carbon isotope and large dryness of the gas, and also supported by geologic conditions of Tabei area.

Higher N_2 content and lighter methane carbon isotope of wet gas in Tazhong area shows that gas maturity is lower than that of dry gas in most part of Tabei area, natural gas with high N_2 content formed by source rock at the generation peak is captured by trap.

Key words Tarim basin middle-high N_2 natural gases organic genesis N_2 content difference of dry and wet gases source rock maturity accumulation history