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1 Chemical Structure Evolution of Kerogen during Oil Generation

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7 Abstract

Kerogen was isolated from the source rock of Well L69, Zhanhua depression, 8 Bohai Bay Basin and an artificial pyrolysis experiment was carried out in a closed 9 gold tube system with a heating rate of $2\Box/h$. Products were collected at eleven 10 temperature points every ten degrees from 350 to 450. The soluble organic matter 11 and residual kerogens from the experiment were quantified by weighing. Furthermore, 12 the residual kerogens were analysed by element analysis, X-ray photoelectron 13 spectroscopy (XPS) and solid ¹³C nuclear magnetic resonance (¹³C NMR) 14 spectroscopy to determine the chemical structural of kerogen during oil generation. 15 Combining the data from the analyses, information on the elemental compositions as 16 well as on how functional groups were connected in residues was obtained. Seven 17 molecular models of initial and residual kerogens were established to trace the 18 structure changes in kerogen with maturity. The results suggest that as the temperature 19 increases, aliphatic chains and small clusters of aromatic groups break down from 20 kerogens, generating soluble hydrocarbons at temperatures of less than 390□ (Easy% 21 Ro1.15). At higher thermal maturity, a few short aliphatic carbons remain in the 22 structure of residues. The number of aromatic groups increases and their size grows 23

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