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Abstract: Fractionation of chemical components and hydrogen/carbon isotopic compositions associated with biodegradation of shale gases were determined from typical shale profiles of the Upper Triassic Yanchang Formation, Ordos Basin, China. The results show that the light hydrocarbons (C_1-C_5) of the shale gases were partially degraded by microorganisms and the degradation degree decreased with depth in the profile of Well YY22. However, the degradation degree of Wells FY2 are basically unchanging at different depths and there is no obvious evidence for biodegradation in Well YY18. Biodegradation of C_1 and C_2 can occur and the degradation of hydrocarbon

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