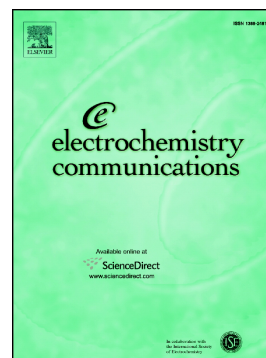


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# Microbiologically-enhanced galvanic corrosion of the steel beneath a deposit in simulated oilfield-produced water containing *Desulfotomaculum nigrificans*

Hongwei Liu<sup>a,b</sup>, Xiankang Zhong<sup>c</sup>, Hongfang Liu<sup>a,\*</sup>, Y. Frank Cheng<sup>b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory for Large-Format Battery Materials and System, Ministry of Education, Hubei Key Laboratory of Materials Chemistry and Service Failure, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei 430074, China

<sup>b</sup> Dept. of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB, T2N 1N4, Canada

<sup>c</sup> State Key Laboratory of Oil and Gas Reservoir Geology and Exploitation, Southwest Petroleum University, Chengdu, Sichuan 610500, China

## Abstract

In this work, microbiologically-enhanced galvanic corrosion between the carbon steel beneath a deposit and bare steel was investigated in simulated oilfield-produced water containing sulfate-reducing bacteria (SRB), in this case *Desulfotomaculum nigrificans*. The results show that the SRB enhance the generation of a galvanic coupling effect between bare steel and the steel under the deposit, due to their different electrochemical potentials, resulting in accelerated corrosion of the steel under the deposit. In this galvanic couple the bare steel serves as the cathode and the steel under the deposit as the anode. As time increases, the bare steel also suffers from SRB-induced microbiologically influenced corrosion. The galvanic effect is reduced after a long period of incubation due to decreasing SRB activity. Moreover, in the presence of SRB the localized corrosion initiated on the steel under the deposit is greater than that occurring on bare steel.

**Keywords:** microbiologically influenced corrosion; galvanic corrosion; under deposit corrosion; sulfate-reducing bacteria

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\*Corresponding authors.

E-mail: liuhf@hust.edu.cn (Hongfang Liu); fcheng@ucalgary.ca (Frank Cheng)

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