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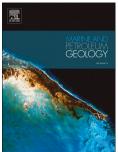
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## CCEPTED MANUSCRIP

Pore structure and fractal analysis of Lower Carboniferous

carbonate reservoirs in the Marsel area, Chu-Sarysu Basin

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Abstract: Evaluation of carbonate heterogeneity, closely related to pore geometry and

connectivity, is important in oil and gas field production and reservoir prediction. To profoundly

understand the heterogeneity of Lower Carboniferous carbonate reservoirs in the Marsel area,

including Visean (C<sub>1</sub>v) and Serpukhovian (C<sub>1</sub>sr), the pore structure and fractal characteristics are

investigated using routine petrophysical measurements, X-ray diffraction (XRD), cast thin section

analysis, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), and mercury injection capillary pressure (MICP)

tests. The origin of potentially prolific reservoir, the relationships between fractal dimension and

reservoir physical properties, mineral composition and pore structure are also discussed. XRD

results reveal that the mineral compositions are highly heterogeneous in C<sub>1</sub>v and C<sub>1</sub>sr. Routine

petrophysical experiments indicate that C<sub>1</sub>v and C<sub>1</sub>sr are generally tight. However, some high

porosity-permeability zones exist in C<sub>1</sub>sr, which is described as a potentially prolific reservoir. The

cast thin section and SEM analyses identify three main pore types in the potentially prolific

reservoir: interparticle dissolution pores, intercrystalline dissolution pores, and moldic pores. The

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