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ORGANIC GEOCHEMISTRY 1,150,006
GEOCHEMISTRY OF FOSSIL FUELS: FROM
CONVENTIONAL TO UNCONVENTIONAL HYDROCARBON
SYSTEMS

A.Y.Huc (IFP Energies Nouvelles). Editions Technip, Paris,
2013. (ISBN 978-2-7108-0990-6; 265 pp)

Understanding the origin and fate of hydrocarbons in the subsurface has been the major endeavor of organic geochemists during the second half of the XXth century. They succeeded to the point where the deciphered interplaying set of elements and processes paved the way to the revolutionary concept of petroleum system, a unifying paradigm which plays an important role in decision making associated with oil and gas exploration. The chemistry and physics involved have been addressed in a quantitative way and integrated to the other aspects of petroleum geology, giving rise to the development of numerical basin modeling. These simulators are now an essential tool in the workflows used by the petroleum industry of prospective appraisal of sedimentary basins. The concept of petroleum systems is sufficiently robust to encompass the geological rationale underlying the occurrence of hydrocarbons in unconventional settings, a booming domain in the scene of energy. This book has been designed in order to offer an overview on different aspects of the geochemistry of fossil fuels, in particular on the functioning of a petroleum system. In this respect, it can be viewed as a foundation for approaching basin modeling. It also introduces the role of geochemistry in reservoir characterization, production and flow insurance.

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Maria Mullen	phone: (918) 631-3504
Petroleum Abstracts	(800) 247-8678
The University of Tulsa	fax: (918) 631-2100
800 S. Tucker Drive, JRH 1504	email: mmullen@utulsa.edu
Tulsa, OK 74104-3189	http://www.pa.utulsa.edu
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