

H2STORE and HyINTEGER – studies on the effect of hydrogen storage in (PORE) underground gas reservoirs – an overview

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& the H2STORE / HyINTEGER team

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Federal Ministry
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- H2STORE -

Investigations on geohydraulic, mineralogical, geochemical and biogenic processes during hydrogen underground storage in depleted gas reservoirs



08.2012 – 12.2015

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- HyINTEGER -

Investigations on the integrity of wells and technical components exposed to high corrosive conditions in geological hydrogen underground reservoirs



01.2016 – 12.2018

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on the basis of a decision
by the German Bundestag



Project consortium – 11 subprojects (6/5)

- 5 universities (plus 5 associated by contracts)



Institut für
Geowissenschaften Jena



TU Clausthal



UNIVERSITÉ
DE LORRAINE



JOHANNES GUTENBERG
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ



HOCHSCHULE
MERSEBURGTM
University of
Applied Sciences

- 2 research centers



- 4 cooperations with (international) R & D projects



- 5 industrial partners



Major topic of **H2STORE**

Improving the understanding of potential processes during H₂-storage in depleted gas reservoirs, including their impact on:

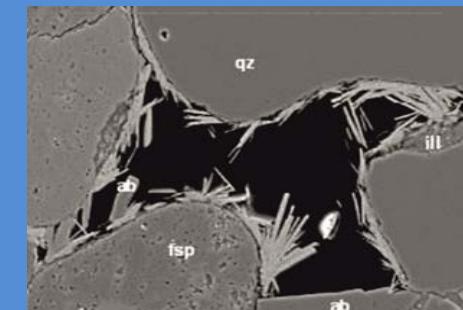
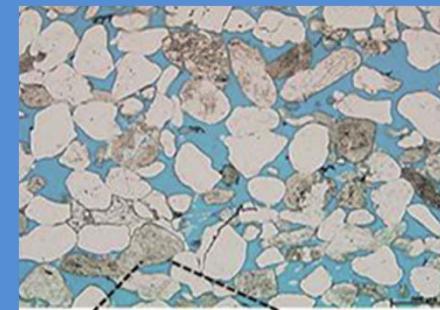
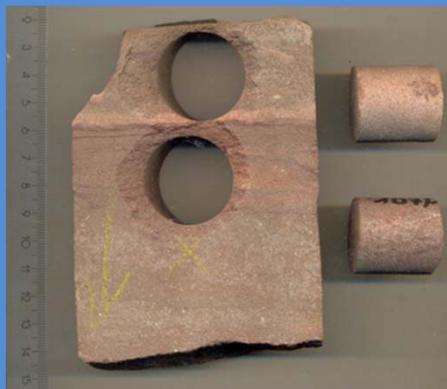
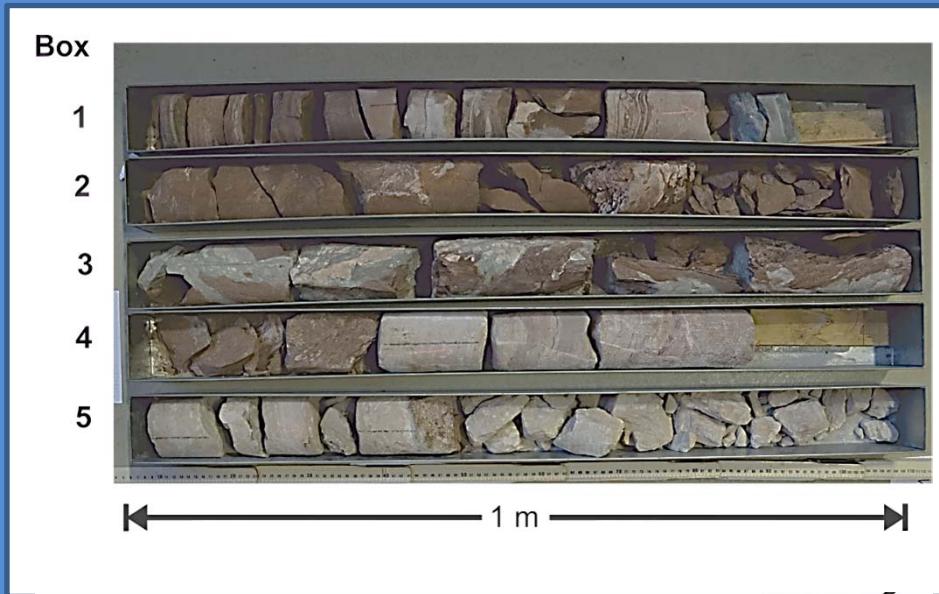
- long term capacity of the reservoir
- biocoenosis (variations in species and population growth)
- gas mixture behaviour
- fluid transport
- reactivity of the reservoir rocks

Major topic of **Hy INTEGER**

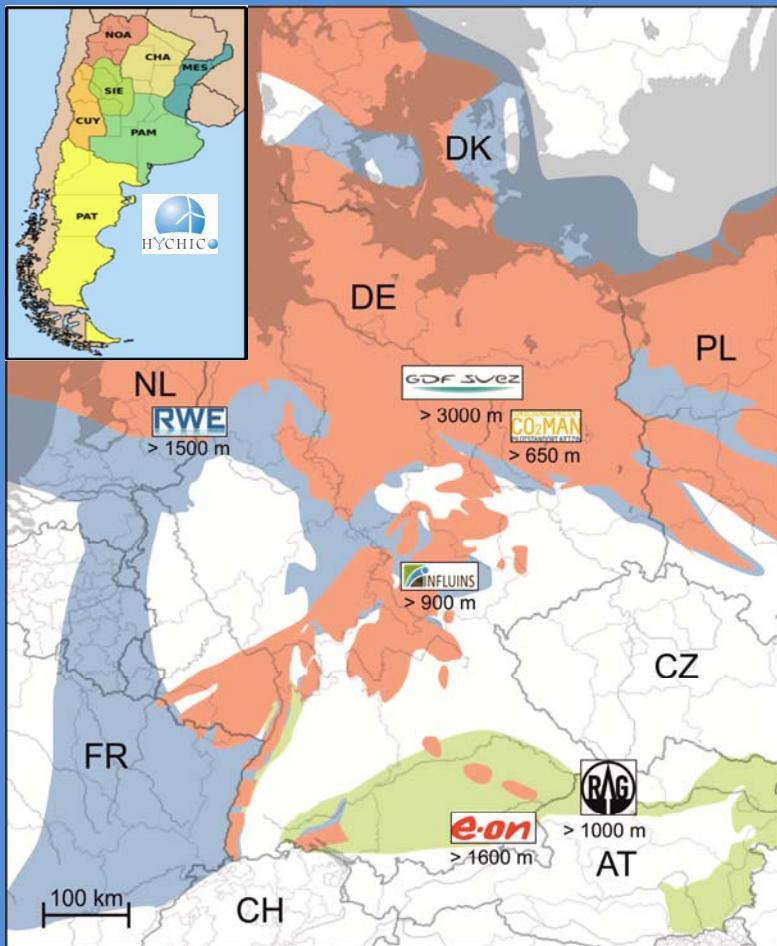
Improving the understanding of potential processes during H₂-storage (*and gas mixtures*) in depleted gas reservoirs *and well casing components*, including their impact on:

- alteration of steel alloys, well cements, and elastomers (in combination with the reservoir rocks/fluids)
- the integrity of the reservoirs (caprock and well leakage)
- reactivity of the components – e.g. variations caused by different gas mixtures (e.g. H₂-CO₂, H₂-CH₄, H₂-H₂S, H₂-C₂H₄O₂) and in the order of their addition to the samples
- gas mixture behaviour and fluid transport

Material



Locations



Age:

~ 25 – 270 Ma (Tertiary – Permian)

Depths:

~ 700 – 3.500 m

Pressure:

~ 4 – 20 MPa

Temperature:

~ 40 – 125°C

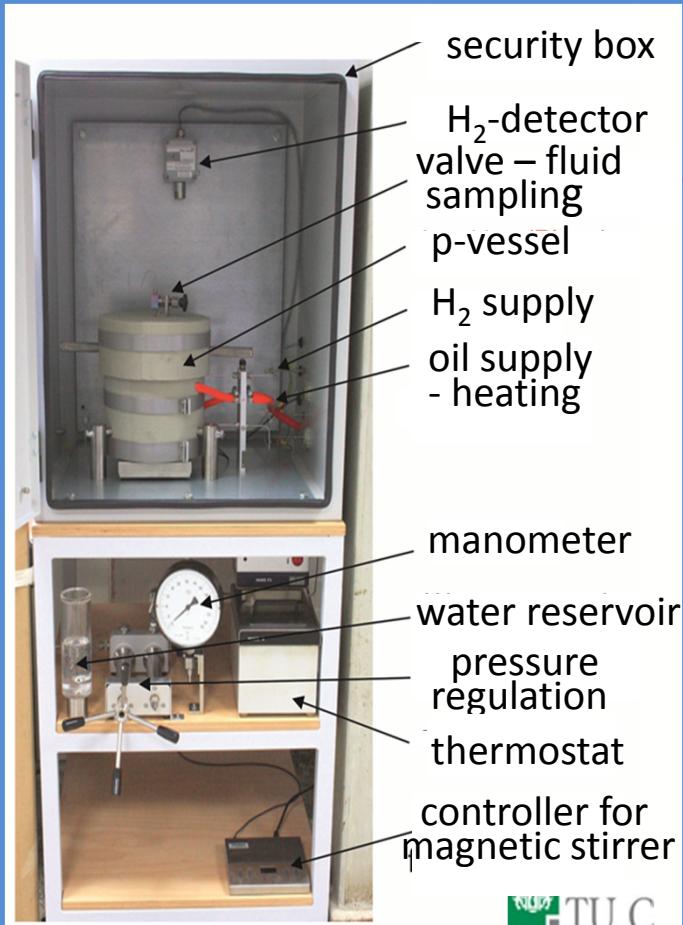
Rock type:

(sub-)arkoses – feldspathic litharenites

Salinity of formation fluids:

~ 350 – 10 g/l

Experimental set-up

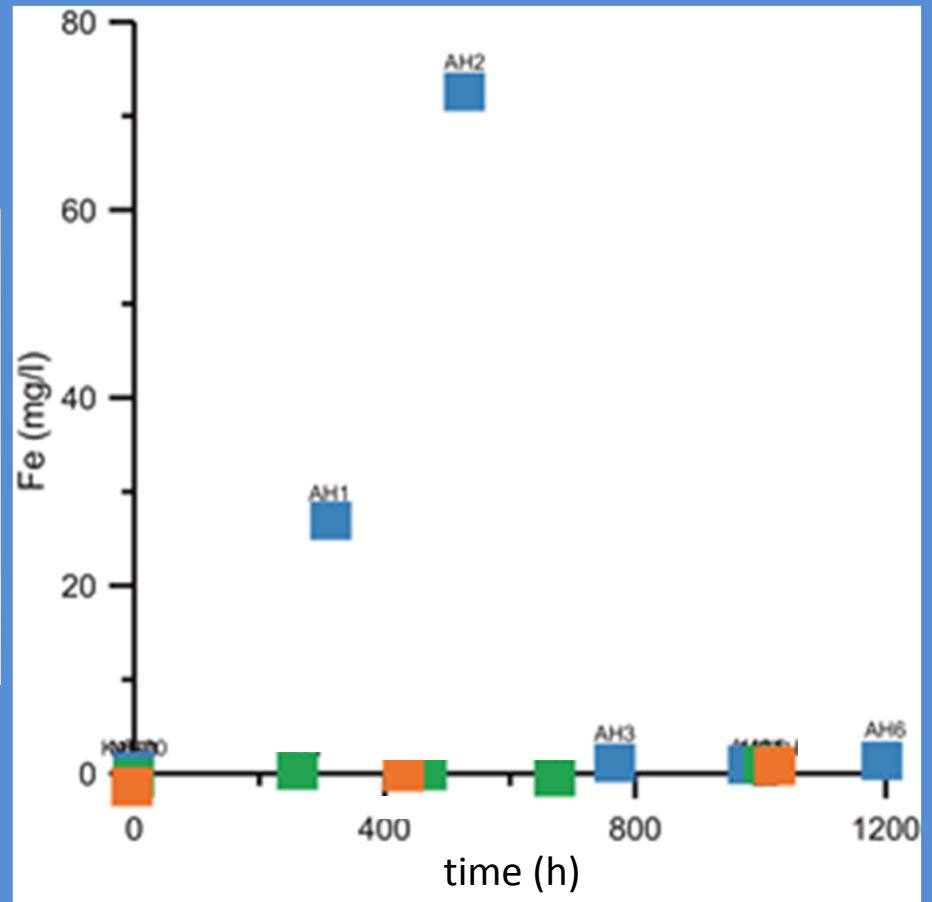
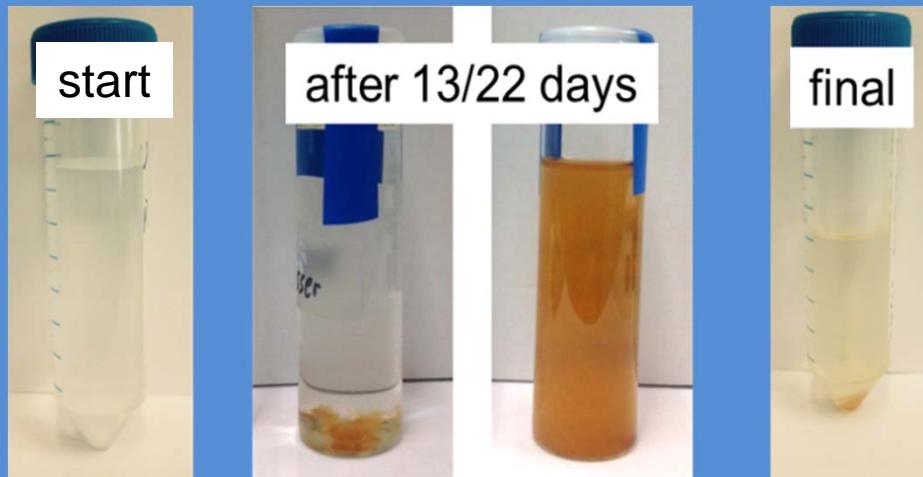


Left: autoclave system at the University Clausthal
– static conditions: $p = \text{max. } 20 \text{ MPa}$, $T = \text{max. } 120^\circ\text{C}$ for 4 – 6 weeks, **pure (100%) H₂**

Below: cylinders, $p = 10 \text{ MPa}$, $T = 25^\circ\text{C}$ for 1 – 2 weeks, **100 % H₂** – only rock powder



Corrosion of steel alloys (1)



Corrosion of steel alloys (2)



Alloys:

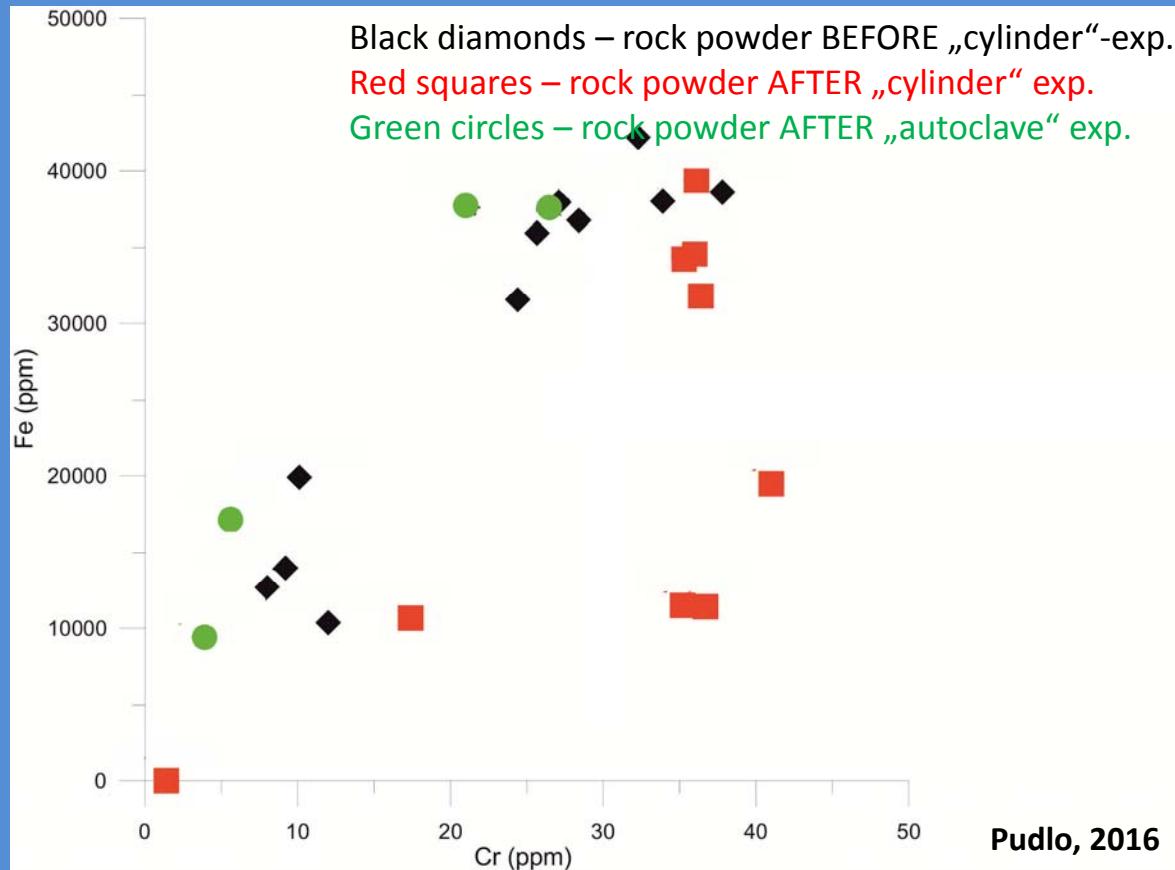
Autoclave – Steel no. 1.4404

Ni – 10.12%, Cr – 16.88%, Fe – max. 68.8%

Valve for fluid sampling – Steel no. S 316

Ni - 10-14%, Cr – 16-18%, Fe – 61.8-72%

Corrosion of steel alloys (3)



Steel no. S 316L

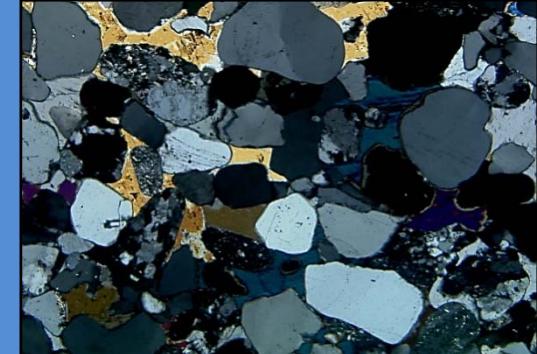
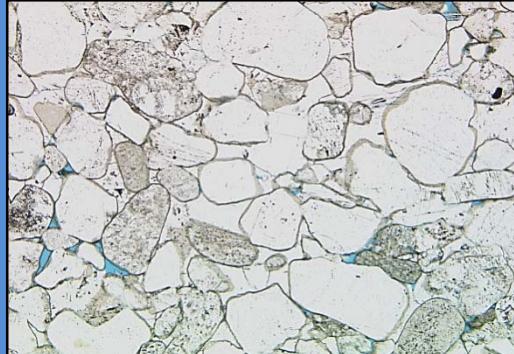
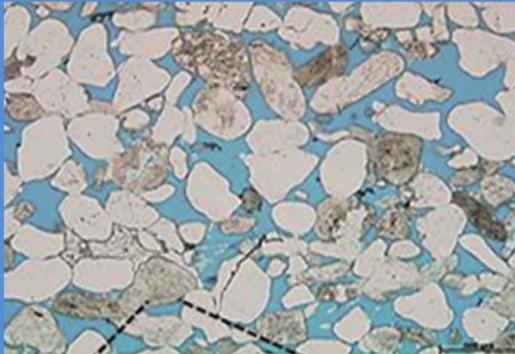
Element	Min	Max
C	-	0,035
Mn	-	2
Ni	10	15
Cr	16	18
Mo	2	3
S	-	0,03
Si	-	1
P	-	0,045
(Fe	60,89	72)

Rate in corrosion of steel alloys

Kind of alloy	316 (L)	1.4404	C-276 (Hastelloy)
Used for	tube of valve (autoclave) & cylinders	autoclave (vessel)	autoclave (valve)
<u>COMPOSITION</u>			
Ni (%)	10 – 15	10.12	51.1 – 62.9
Cr (%)	16 – 18	16.88	15.0 – 16.5
Fe (max. - %)	72	68.88	4.0 – 7.0
Mo (%)	~ 1	2.00	15.0 – 17.0

Corrosion of steel alloys (4)

– what are potential reasons for this alteration (H_2S) ?



(a) pyrite alteration (rare, but pH relevant)

- at lower pH values ($\text{pH} < 6,8$):



- at alkaline conditions ($\text{pH} \sim 6,8\text{--}10$):



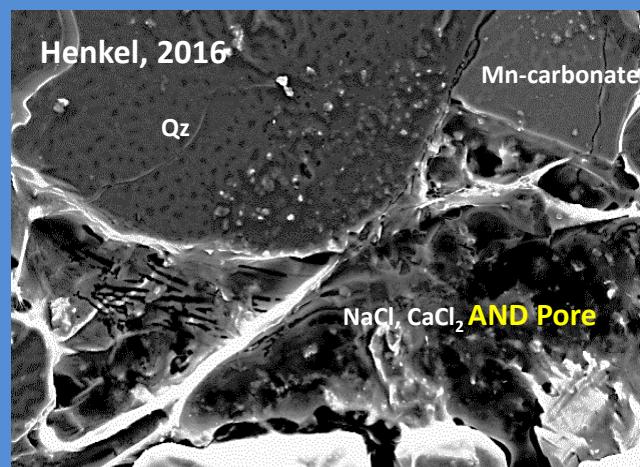
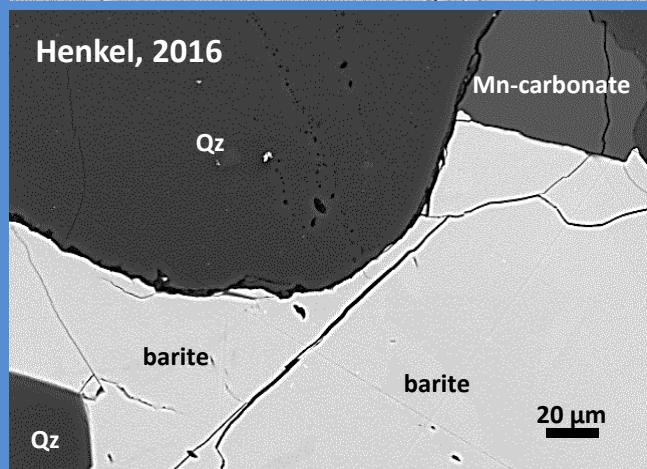
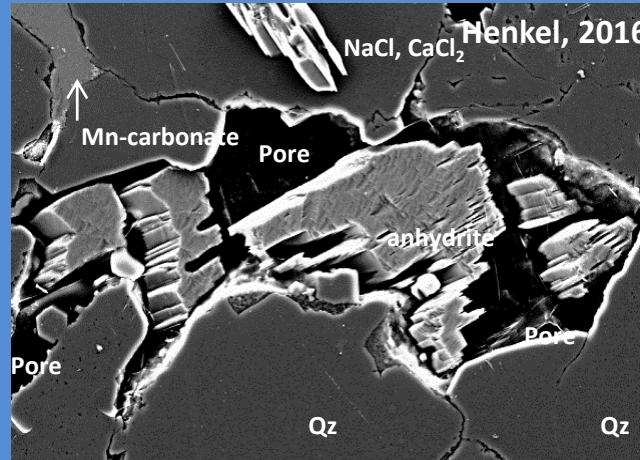
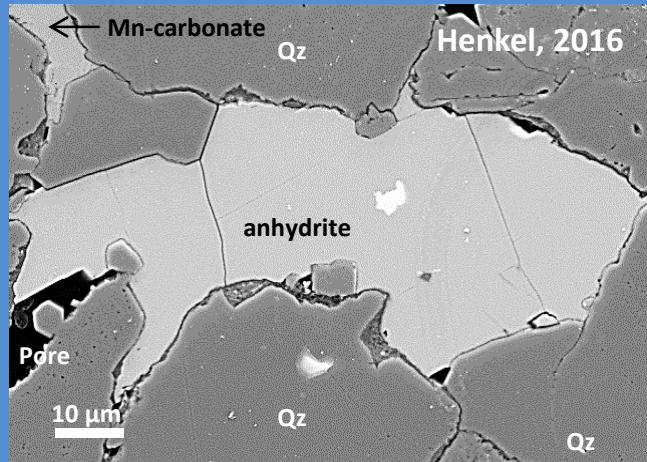
(Allan et al. 2011; Truche et al., 2010)

(b) sulfate reduction (frequent)

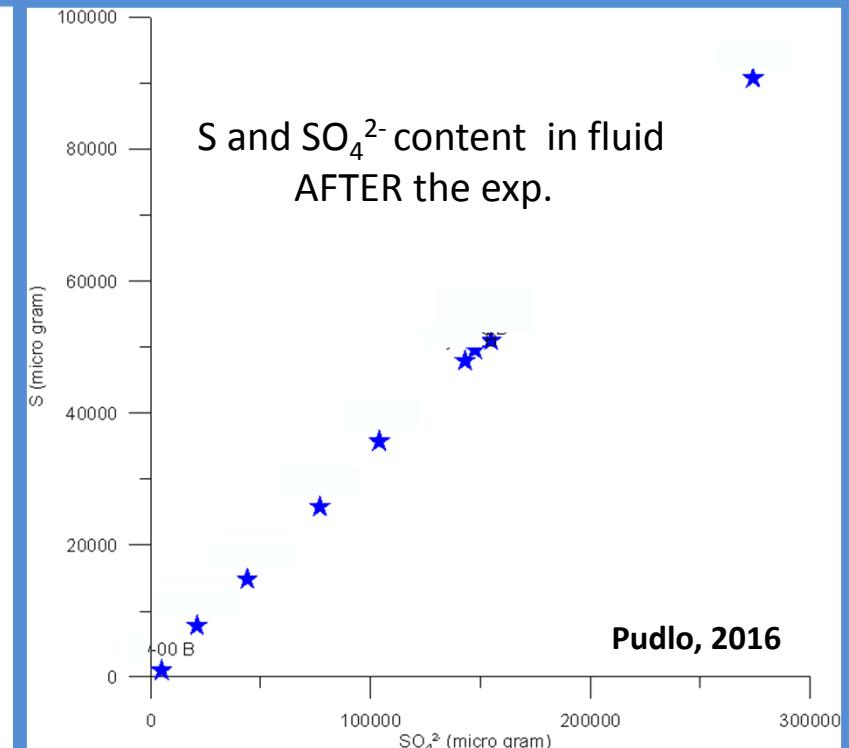
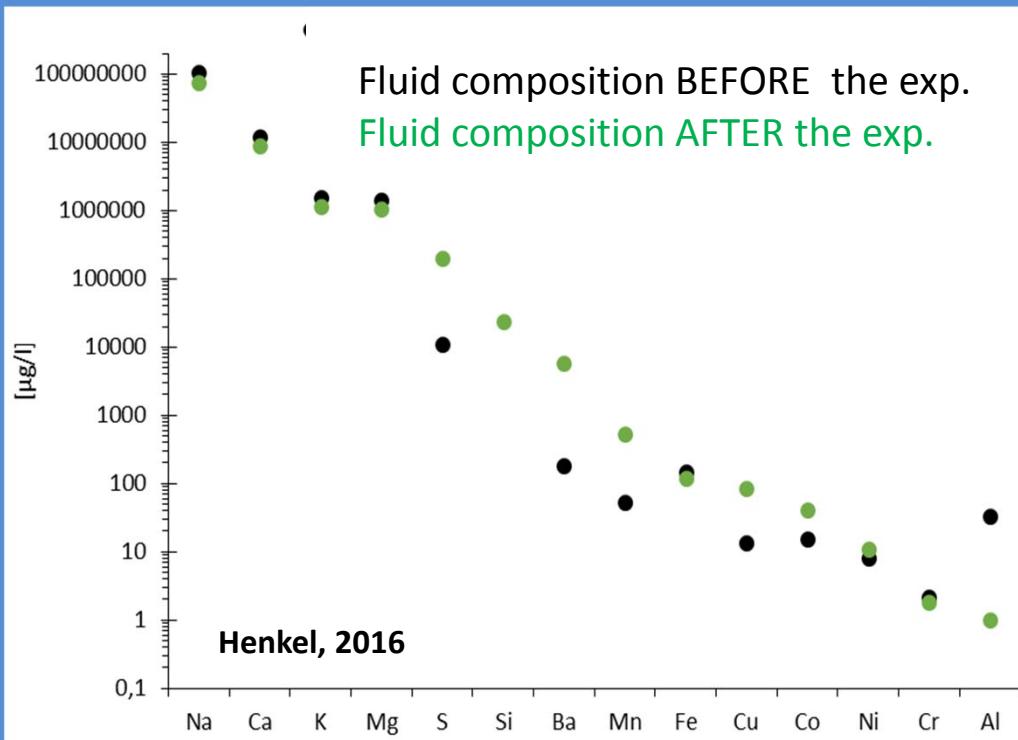


(Anisimov, 1978)

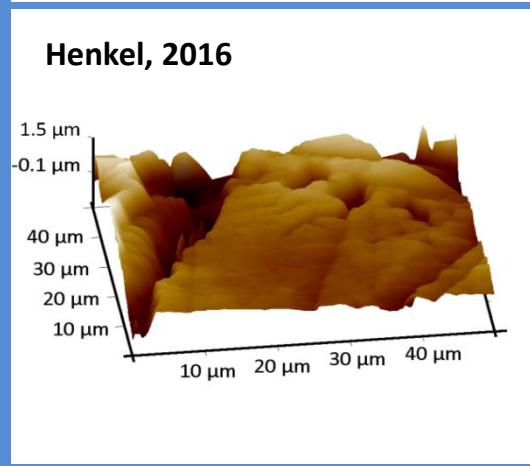
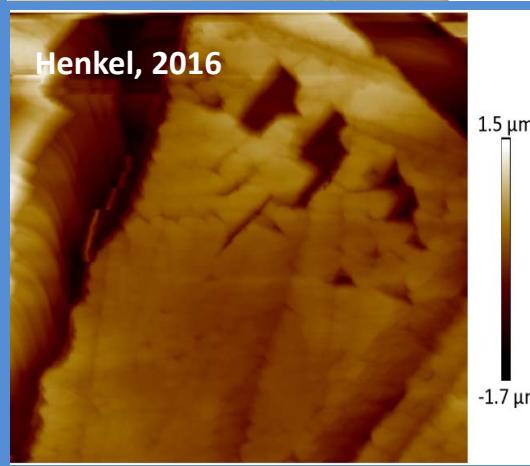
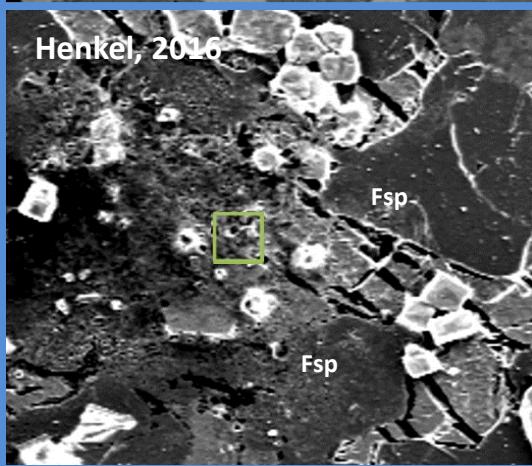
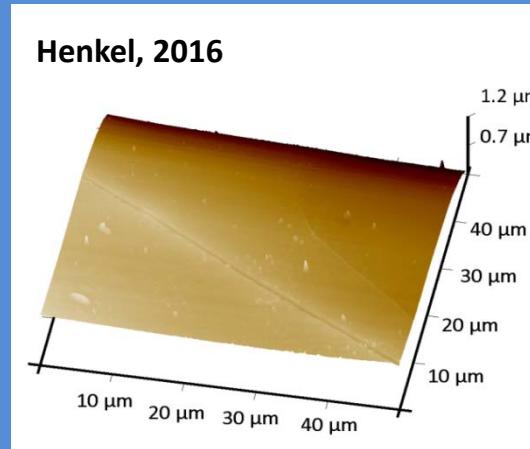
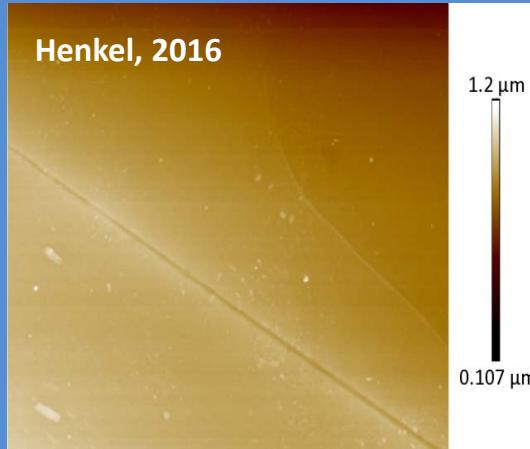
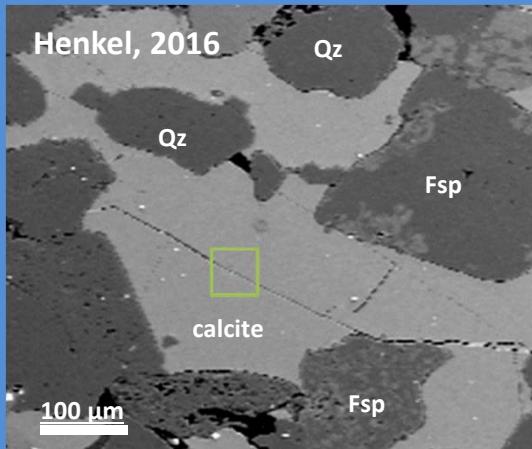
Sulfate dissolution observed: anhydrite (CaSO_4) and barite (BaSO_4)



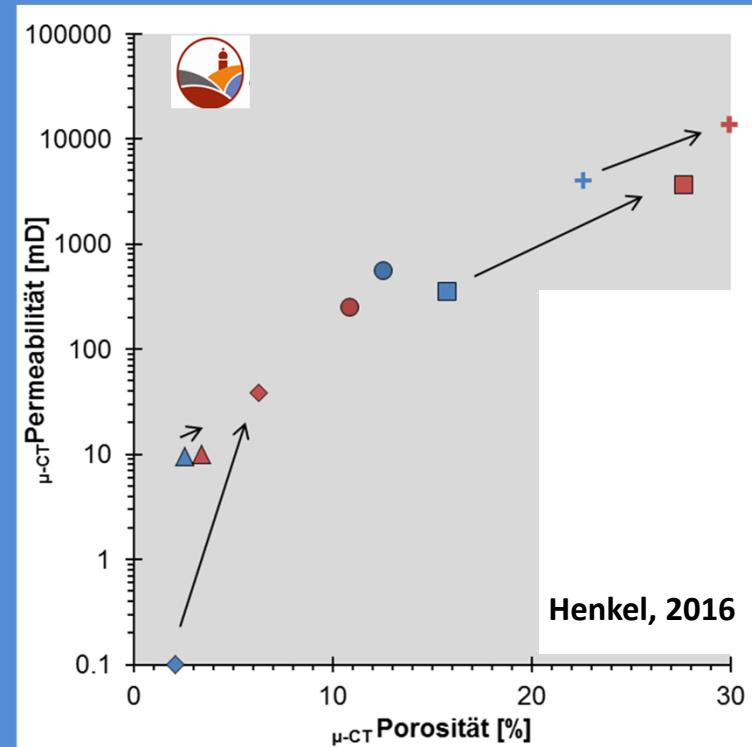
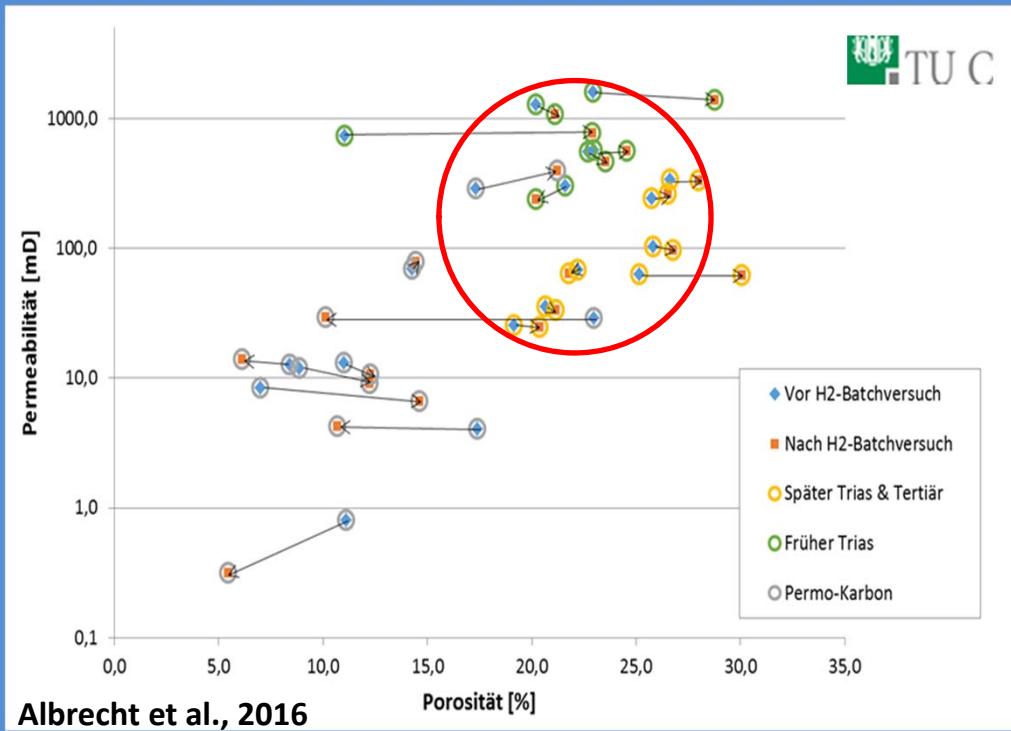
Sulfate dissolution proven by chemical means



NOT ONLY sulfate, but also calcite dissolution is proven

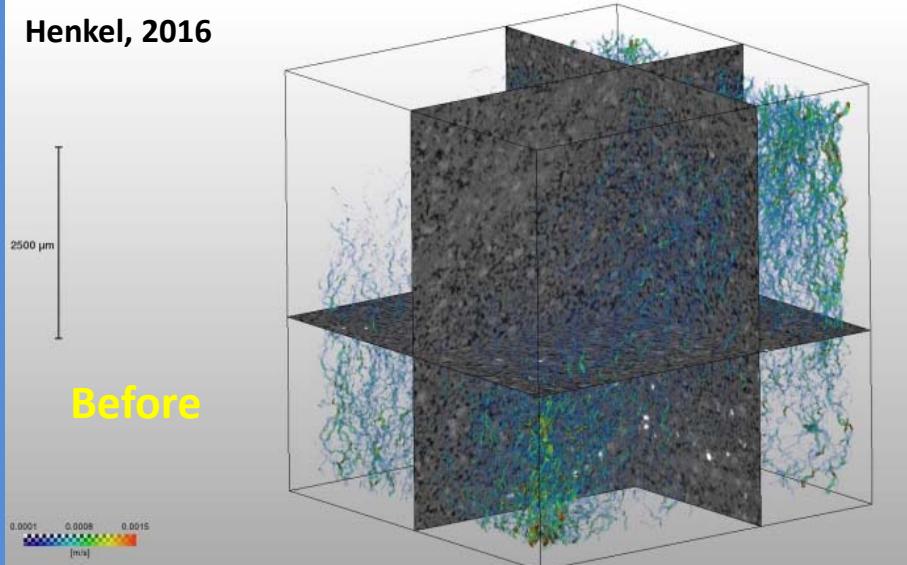


Mineral reactions and their relevance to reservoir quality



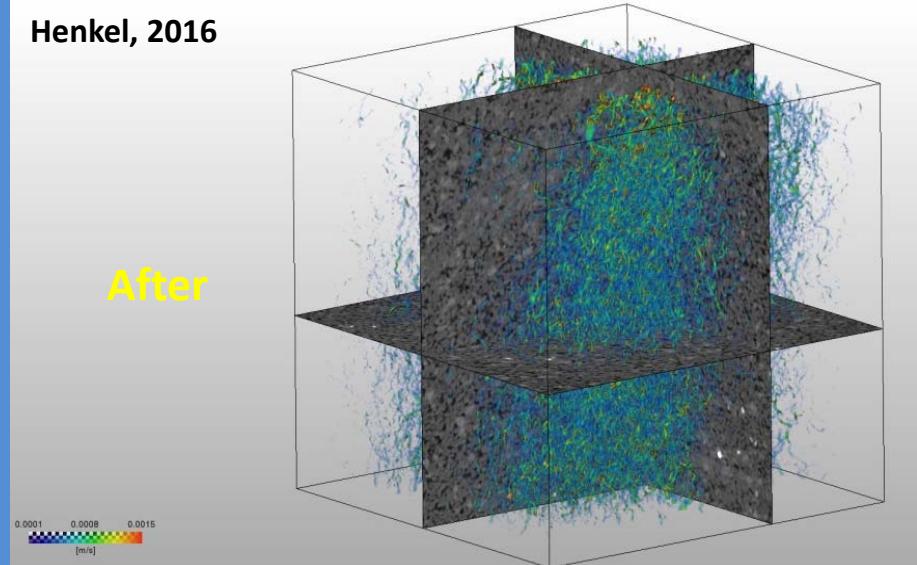
Relevance of porosity and permeability on fluid flow

Henkel, 2016



Henkel, 2016

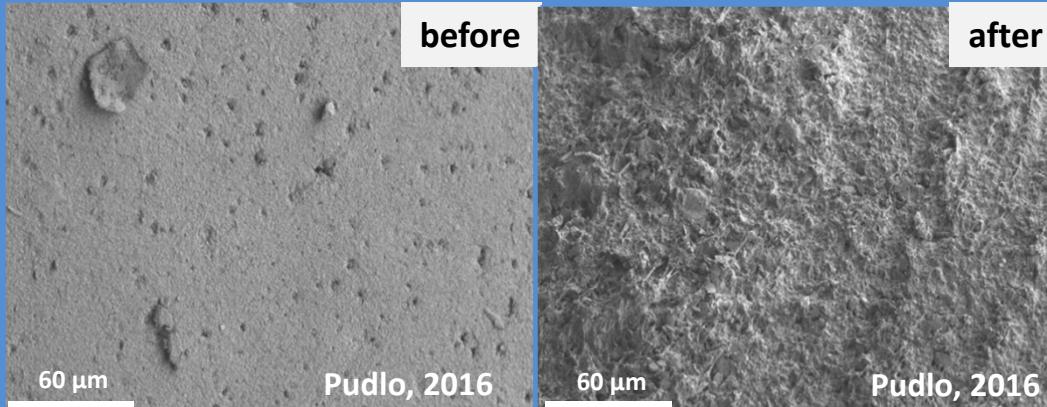
After



After the experiments porosity increases and fluid flow is enhanced - due to the dissolution of (formerly) pore-filling carbonate and sulfate cements.

Blue colours refer to low, red colours to high fluid flow velocities

Alteration of elastomers/sealing components (= packers)



Also: alteration of glass is observed -
not (?) relevant to storage

Summary and Outlook

1. Sulfates and calcite are major components of well cements – further research on the fate of other carbonate species is planned
2. Steel alloys exposed to **pure (100 %) H₂** differ in their corrosion rate
3. Mineral (as well as steel corrosion) reactions **differ in a site specific way** (high salinity vs. low salinity and T-p)
4. Alteration-/mineral dissolution processes will modify reservoir quality and thus storage capacities and recovery rates
5. The alteration of elastomers/sealing components (e.g. “packers”) is reasonable, which might result in some leakage of the well
6. Planned H₂-CH₄ experiments are in context with H₂-pipeline storage and storing such gas mixtures in large-scale underground reservoirs
7. This research is not only relevant for H₂-storage, but also for almost every HC-wells and for cavern storage operations

Thank you for your attention !

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Acknowledgement

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