Hyperspectral analysis of shale gas drilling in southern Huangling anticline

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Abstract. In this paper, the visible near infrared, short wave red, and thermal infrared spectral data and high-definition core images of three wells in Huangling anticline in Western Hubei are obtained by hylogger. Through comprehensive analysis, it can be seen that the thickness of Niutitang Formation is decreasing from west to East, However, the thickness of Doushantuo Formation is basically the same, ranging from 210m to 220m. Quartz, clay minerals, carbonate and limonite are the main minerals in Niutitang formation, while in Doushantuo Formation dolomite is the main mineral. Dolomite fracture is developed in this area, which is a favorable area for shale gas development.

1 Background

Shale gas refers to the mature dark shale or high carbon shale which is rich in organic matter, because of the adsorption of organic matter or the existence of cracks and matrix pores in the rock, which makes the reservoir and preservation of natural gas with certain commercial value of biogenic, pyrolytic and mixed origin^[1].

In recent years, the growth rate of domestic natural gas consumption demand has exceeded that of coal and oil, and the external dependence is rising rapidly. The gap between supply and demand is also getting bigger and bigger, especially the short-term imbalance between supply and demand, which has affected the safety of urban gas supply and the improvement of people's living environment. However, the contradiction between supply and demand cannot be effectively alleviated only by increasing the production of conventional natural gas. Therefore, it is urgent to strengthen the exploration and exploitation of shale gas, increase the production of shale gas in China, and form an effective supplement to conventional natural gas.

Hyperspectral core survey obtains the hyperspectral core data, extracts the mineral information to analyze the vertical spatial distribution characteristics of drilling, and provides guidance for shale gas exploration work.

In this paper, visible-near-infrared, short-wave red, and thermal infrared spectral data and core high-definition images of four drilling Wells in Huangling anticline in western Hubei were obtained through Hylogger. By extracting mineral information from the hyperspectral data, a comprehensive analysis was made on the four drilling Wells.

2 Geological background in Huangling anticline, western Hubei

The southern wing of the Huangling anticline belongs to continental shelf platform facies. In the Late Sinian, Doushantuo Formation, a set of source rocks composed of black shale, dark grayish black micritic limestone and carbon-bearing mudstone, was divided into a second-order sequence (SS1), which contains four third-order sequences (SQ1 SQ2 SQ3 SQ4). The high quality dark shale is mainly distributed in the SQ2 sequence, namely the second member of Doushantuo Formation of the Upper Sinian^[2]. The Doushantuo Formation in this area is mainly composed of favorable interplatform depression facies. The main lithology of the second member of Doushantuo Formation is carbonaceous micritic limestone and dolomite, and the organic matter type is mainly sapropelic (Itype) or humic sapropelic (II₁type). The content of organic matter was in the range of 0.55%-2.23%, with an average of 1.4%. Ro ranged from 1.49% to 1.86%, with an average of 1.74%, which was basically in the over-mature stage^[3].

3 Analysis of individual drilling

Absorption band position (P) is the wavelength corresponding to the minimum or maximum value of the spectral curve; spectral to emissivity value (R) at the absorption band position; band depth (H) is due to the fact that mineral chemical composition has lower emissivity at a certain wavelength point than the adjacent band; width (W) refers to the depth of the band H. Half the height; slope $K = \tan^{-1}[(Re-Rs)/(\lambda e - \lambda s)]$. The sketch of

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characteristic parameters of mineral absorption is shown in the following figure^[4].

Fig.1. Spectral Absorption Characteristic

Among them, R_e , R_s are the absorption endpoint and the incidence of absorption starting point respectively: the corresponding wavelength is λ_e , λ_s .

In this paper, the core scanning of YY1, ZD1 and ZD2 shale gas wells in the lower Cambrian Niutitang Formation and the lower Sinian Doushantuo Formation was completed by using the hylogger core scanner, and the hyperspectral and high-definition image data of visible near infrared short wave infrared (380-2500nm) and thermal infrared (6000-14500nm) were obtained.

The rock types of Niutitang Formation are mainly dolomitic rock, silty mudstone, black mudstone and black shale.

The main rock types of Doushantuo Formation are: gray-black mudstone, siltstone, fine sandstone and dolomite.

Fig. 2. Image and spectrum of dolomitic mudstone cores

Fig. 3. Image and spectrum of iron dolomite core

Fig. 4. Image and spectrum of black shale core from well ZD1

Fig. 5. Image and spectrum of black mudstone cores

3.1 Mineral information distribution in well ZD1

68.94m-439.54m: Quartz has a small distribution in this section, mainly distributed in the range of 191.66m to 359.06m, and the relative content reaches 100% in many places in this section.

Kaolinite is concentrated in the range of 326m-354m in this section, and its relative content is small, with the maximum relative content of 37.2%, located at 351.02m.

Calcite is continuously distributed in large quantities in this section, and its relative content is high. It is the main alteration mineral, and the relative content reaches 100% in many places. The dolomite is widely distributed in this section, which mainly concentrates in the beginning and end of this section, with the maximum relative content of 100%, appearing in many places.

Chlorite is distributed continuously in this section, but its relative content is low, basically below 20%. The maximum relative content is 66.2%, which is located at 67.92m.

Sulfate, Muscovite, montmorillonite, Illite are rarely distributed in this section.

569.04m-861.86m: Quartz is mainly distributed continuously in the range of 665.34-861.86m in this section, and its content has no obvious change compared with that in the previous section. Its relative content curve fluctuates greatly, and the relative content is 100% in several areas.

Calcite is continuously distributed in large quantities at the beginning and end of this section, and its relative content is high, and the relative content reaches 100% in many places. The dolomite is continuously distributed in large quantities in this section, which is the main alteration mineral with the maximum relative content of 100% and appears in many places.

Chlorite is distributed continuously in this section, but its relative content is low, basically below 20%. It is mainly located after 686m, and the maximum relative

content is 91.8%, located at 760.62m.

Sulfate, Kaolinite, Muscovite, Montmorillonite, Illite are rarely distributed in this section.

3.2 Mineral information distribution in well ZD2

664.54m-841.64m: Quartz is widely distributed at the beginning and end of this section, and the relative content reaches 100% in many places in this section. Calcite is continuously distributed in this section, and the relative content of calcite increases obviously in the range of 732.84m to 817.66m, showing a negative correlation with quartz.

Dolomite is distributed continuously after 731.82m in this section, and the maximum relative content is 85.9%, which is located at 818.36m.

Chlorite is distributed continuously in this section, but its relative content is low, basically below 40%, and the maximum relative content is 71.2%, which is 766.4m.

The distribution of amphibole, feldspar, gypsum, Muscovite, montmorillonite and illite are rarely distributed in this section.

1158.06m-1445.81m: Quartz is distributed discretely in this section, and its content is obviously less than that of the above section, and its relative content reaches 100% in many places in this section.

In the range of 1158.06m to 1027.66m, the calcite is continuously large, while the distribution of the remaining sections is significantly less, and the relative content in many parts of this section reaches 100%.

Dolomite is continuously distributed in large quantities in this section, and it is the main alteration mineral, with the maximum relative content of 100% and dense occurrence.

Chlorite has been continuously distributed since the late section of 1197.56m, and the maximum relative content is 73.1%, which is located at 1426.24m.

Hornblende, gypsum, Muscovite, montmorillonite are rarely distributed in this section.

3.3 Mineral information distribution in well YY1

2971.24m-3066.9m: Quartz is continuously distributed in this area, and the maximum relative content of quartz is 100%.

The distribution of calcite is relatively discrete, with continuous distribution at the front and rear ends of the section, and the distribution at other locations is relatively discrete, with the maximum relative content reaching 100% in many places; dolomite is widely distributed, with the relative content smaller than that of quartz in front, with the maximum relative content reaching 100% in many places.

Chlorite is widely distributed, and its distribution increases obviously, with the maximum relative content of 60.8% at 3012.86m.

Muscovite, amphibole and montmorillonite are rarely distributed in this section.

3329.08m-3453.02m: Quartz is continuously distributed in this area, and the maximum relative content of quartz is 100%.

Calcite is sporadically distributed before 3421.46m, and continuously distributed after 3421.46m, with the maximum relative content of 91.9% at 3442.24m; dolomite is densely distributed with high relative content, with the maximum relative content of 100%.

Muscovite, amphibole, montmorillonite, chlorite are rarely distributed in this section.

4 Comparative analysis of mineral information of zd1, ZD2 and YY1

Wells in the western Hubei area belong to the middle and upper Yangtze region. Wells ZD1, 2 and YY1 are located in the south of Huangling anticline, This paper makes a comparative analysis of these Wells.

Fig. 6. Drilling distribution map

Table 1. Depth of each drilling target layer

Name of drilling	Depth of Niutitang Formation	Depth of Doushantuo Formation
YY1	2601m-3069.5m(468m)	3245m-3458m(213m)
ZD1	66.31m-386.46m(320.15m)	633.91m-854.16m(220.97m)
ZD2	734.5m-817.52m(83.02m)	1234.95m-1445.0m(210.05m)

Among the three Wells, the thickness of Niutitang Formation in Well YY1 is the largest, and that in Well ZD2 is the smallest. It can be seen that the thickness of Niutitang Formation decreases from west to east. The thickness of Doushantuo Formation is basically the same in the three Wells, ranging from 210m to 220m.

In Niutitang Formation, quartz, clay minerals, carbonate and trivalent iron are the main minerals, which are basically the same as those in three wells in Huangling anticline. Well ZD1 and well ZD2 are dominated by dolomitic mudstone and siltstone at the top and bottom, but in dark layer system, well ZD1 and well ZD2 are basically the same as well YY1.

Fig. 7. Mineral content contrast map of Niutitang Formation

In Doushantuo Formation, dolomitic rocks are the main minerals in well ZD1, well ZD2 and well YY1. The difference is that the quartz content of well ZD1 and well YY1 is higher than that of well ZD2 except trivalent iron, and the clay mineral content of well ZD1 and well YY1 is higher than that of well ZD2.

Dolomitization of carbonate rock often increases the size of crystal and the radius of inter pore channels, so as to improve the permeability and form a good reservoir. The dolomite fractures in the three wells are developed, which is conducive to fracturing and is a good gas reservoir.

Fig. 8. Mineral content contrast map of Doushantuo Formation

After the extraction of al-oh absorption peak (the mica content in YY1 well is very little, so no map is made), it is found that the absorption peak of aluminum hydroxyl group is after 2210nm and has little change, which belongs to low aluminum sericite, indicating that the temperature environment in this area is relatively stable.

Fig. 9. Location of AL-OH absorption peak in well ZD1

Fig. 10. Location of AL-OH absorption peak in well ZD2

5 Conclusion

The lithology of ZD1 well is mainly dolomitic limestone, dolomite, black shale, mudstone and dolomitic limestone. The main lithology of ZD2 well is gray black silty mudstone, black mudstone, dolomite, dolomitic siltstone and black dolomitic mudstone. The lithology of YY1 well is mainly gray black and black mudstone, gray black and black shale and dolomite.

The dolomitization of carbonate rocks often increases the size of the crystals and the radius of the pore channels, thus improving the permeability and forming good reservoirs. The fractures in the dolomite in these three Wells are well developed and the characteristics of hydrocarbon absorption peaks are obvious, which is conducive to fracturing and is a good reservoir horizon.

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