

# ZHONG Cheng

Earth and Atmospheric Sciences

University of Alberta

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Tel: +1 780-695-6734



## Education

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### 2017-present PhD University of Alberta, Canada

- Earth Environmental Sciences (GPA: 4.0)
- Advisor: Prof. Daniel S. Alessi
- Dissertation: Microbial Ecology associated with Hydraulic Fracturing Water cycle

### 2016-2017 MSc University of Alberta, Canada

- Earth Environmental Sciences
- Advisor: Prof. Daniel S. Alessi
- Dissertation: Microbial Community Dynamics in the Hydraulic Fracturing Water Cycle from Two Newly Fractured Shale Gas Wells in the Duvernay Formation, Alberta

### 2014-2015 MSc University of Alberta, Canada

- Integrated Petroleum Geosciences
- Advisor: Prof. Karlis Muehlenbachs
- Dissertation: Stable Isotope  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  analysis of the Woodford Source Rock, Permian Basin

### 2010-2014 Honored BE Southwest Petroleum University, China

- Resource Exploration
- Advisor: Prof. Shijia Chen
- Honored thesis: Characteristics of Permian tight oil accumulation in eastern Junggar Huoshao Mountain and Northern Huoshao Mountain regions

## Research Interests

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Bioinformatics & Metagenomics    Microbial Ecology    Geobiology & Geochemistry

## Skills

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### Programming and data processing

- R, Python, MATLAB, Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, popular bioinformatic pipelines

### Lab

- Metagenome-assembled genomes, 16S rRNA, DNA extraction, PCR, GC-MS, ICP-MS, Orbitrap-HPLC-MS, TEM, SEM, Fluorescence Microscope

### Languages

- Chinese (native), English (fluent), Japanese (beginner)

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## Research Experience

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**2016.1-present RA, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta (Prof. Daniel S. Alessi)**

- Metagenomics and geochemical analyses of deep terrestrial subsurface microbiome (in collaboration with Prof. Kelly C. Wrighton, Colorado State University).
- Metagenomics and metabolic analyses of contaminated aquatic and soil microbiome (in collaboration with Prof. Kurt Konhauser and Prof. Greg G. Goss)

**2019 Winter Visiting Scientist, Environmental School, Tsinghua University (Prof. Deyi Hou)**

- Convolutional neural networks of image processing for environmental risk assessment.
- Critical review on sustainability of the hydraulic fracturing water cycle in North America and China

**2015 Summer RA, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta (Prof. Karlis Muehlenbachs)**

- Reconstructed the paleo-environment and -climate based oxygen and carbon stable isotope of source rock in Permian Basin.

## Publication

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2020

### **8. Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing Flowback and Produced Water on Soil Microbial Communities**

**Cheng Zhong**, Konstantin von Gunten, Camilla L. Nesbø, Yifeng Zhang, Xiaoqing Shao, Rong Jin, Kurt O. Konhauser, Greg G. Goss, Brian D. Lanoil, Daniel S. Alessi

(2020) Under Review

### **7. Comparative Metagenomics Uncover Distinct Shale Microbiome in Deep Fractured Subsurface**

**Cheng Zhong**, Mikayla A. Borton, Camilla L. Nesbø, Fu Chen, Malcolm D. Forster, Liaozi Han, Greg G. Goss, Kelly C. Wrighton, Brian D. Lanoil, Daniel S. Alessi.

(2020) Under Review

### **6. Assessing Sustainability of Hydraulic Fracturing Water Cycle in North America and China: A Critical Review**

**Cheng Zhong**, Deyi Hou, Ashkan Zolfaghari, Greg G. Goss, Brian D. Lanoil, Daniel S. Alessi.

(2020) Proposal accepted by Journal of Environmental Science & Technology, Under Review.

### **5. Response of Aquatic Microbial Communities and Bioindicator Modelling of Hydraulic Fracturing Flowback and Produced Water**

**Cheng Zhong**, Camilla L. Nesbø, Greg G. Goss, Brian D. Lanoil, Daniel S. Alessi

FEMS Microbiology Ecology, 2020, 96(5): fiae068.

2019

### **4. Temporal Changes in Microbial Community Composition and Geochemistry in**

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### **Flowback and Produced Water from the Duvernay Formation**

**Cheng Zhong**, Jiaying Li, Shannon L. Flynn., Camilla L. Nesbø, Chenxin Sun, Konstantin von Gunten, Brian D. Lanoil, Greg G. Goss, Jonathan W. Martin, Daniel S. Alessi

ACS Earth and Space Chemistry, 2019, 3(6): 1047–1057.

**2018**

### **3. Electron Donor-Driven Bacterial and Archaeal Community Patterns Along Forest Ring Edges in Ontario, Canada**

Konstantin von Gunten, Stewart M. Hamilton, **Cheng Zhong**, Camilla Nesbø, jiaying Li, Karlis Muehlenbachs, Kurt O. Konhauser, Daniel S. Alessi

Environmental Microbiology Reports, 2018, 10(6): 663-672.

**2013**

### **2. Research on the Adaptability between Acidizing Fluid and Reservoir Core with Special Lithology**

**Cheng Zhong**, Xuandong Liu, Fu Chen, Yuting Han and Yuan Xu

Oil Drilling & Production Technology 2013. Iss. 01

**2012**

### **1. Research on Acidizing Fluids for Rock of Special Lithology**

**Cheng Zhong**, Xuandong Liu, Fu Chen, Yuting Han and Yuan Xu

Chemical Engineering of Oil & Gas 2012. Iss. 06

## **Conferences**

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### **2019 American Chemical Society (ACS) Conference (Talk), San Diego, USA**

Talk: Microbial Community Dynamics in The Hydraulic Fracturing Water Cycle of A Newly Fractured Shale Gas Well in Western Canada

Co-session chair: remediation of wastewater from energy usage

### **2019 Geobiology Conference (Poster), Banff, Canada**

### **2018 Resources for Future Generation Conference (Talk), Vancouver, Canada**

Talk: Microbial Community Dynamics in Flowback and Produced Water from Unconventional Hydrocarbon Wells

### **2017 Gas Research Institute of Southwest Oil & Gas Field Company, Chengdu, China**

Co-organizer

### **2017 European Innovation Partnership Water Conference, Porto, Portugal**

Co-chair: innovative products and Chinese market

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**2017 Geobiology Conference (Poster), Banff, Canada**

**2017 American Chemical Society (ACS) Conference (Talk), San Francisco, USA**

Talk: Microbial Community Dynamics in The Hydraulic Fracturing Water Cycle of A Newly Fractured Shale Gas Well in Western Canada

## **Awards and Media**

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2019 Media interview for research outcome

Link: [Press release of Faculty of Science in University of Alberta](#)

2017 University of Alberta J Gordin Kaplan Student award

2017 University of Alberta GSA travel award

2016 University of Alberta PhD fully funded

2015 University of Alberta MSc fully funded

2014 Southwest Petroleum University honored undergraduate degree

2013 Southwest Petroleum University second-price scholarship

2013 Sichuan Province Environment Protection Scientific Technology Award

Title: Treating drilling mud real time during drilling to prevent drilling mud falling ground  
Co-applicant

2013 Southwest Petroleum University second prize in undergraduate innovation experiment

2012 Southwest Petroleum University second-price scholarship

2012 Southwest Petroleum University first-price scholarship

## **Community Service**

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- Reviewer (Journal of Marine and Petroleum Geology)
- Undergraduate mentor (one student has been accepted by University of Toronto)
- English translation for commercial contract

## **References**

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### **Daniel S. Alessi**

M.Sc. & Ph.D. advisor  
Geochemistry mentor  
Earth and Atmospheric  
Sciences  
University of Alberta  
[alessi@ualberta.ca](mailto:alessi@ualberta.ca)

### **Deyi Hou**

Visiting host-lab  
mentor  
Environmental School  
Tsinghua University  
[houdely@tsinghua.edu.cn](mailto:houdely@tsinghua.edu.cn)

### **Camilla D. Nesbø**

Bioinformatics mentor  
Biological Sciences  
University of Alberta  
[nesbo@ualberta.ca](mailto:nesbo@ualberta.ca)

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**Greg G. Goss**

M.Sc. & Ph.D.  
committee

University of Alberta,  
Biological Sciences  
[ggoss@ualberta.ca](mailto:ggoss@ualberta.ca)

**Kurt Konhauser**

Major collaborator

University of Alberta,  
Earth and Atmospheric  
Sciences  
[kurtk@ualberta.ca](mailto:kurtk@ualberta.ca)

**Brian D. Lanoil**

M.Sc. & Ph.D. co-  
advisor

Microbiology mentor  
University of Alberta  
Biological Sciences  
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