



Introduction to Organic Geochemistry

By Stephen D. Killops, Vanessa J. Killops

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An Introduction to Organic Geochemistry explores the fate of organic matter of all types, biogenic and man-made, in the Earth System.

- investigates the variety of pathways and biogeochemical transformations that carbon compounds can experience over a range of time scales and in different environments
- scope widened to provide a broad and up-to-date background - structured to accommodate readers with varied scientific backgrounds
- essential terminology is defined fully and boxes are used to explain concepts introduced from other disciplines
- further study aided by the incorporation of carefully selected literature references
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Editorial Review

Review

"The book is an excellently written , up-to-date text, introducing the fundamental concepts in organic geochemistry without overloading the reader with details. No doubt once again this volume will become widely used by students and other scientists in many fields."

European Journal of Soil Science

"This is arguably the only undergraduate to postgraduate level textbook on organic geochemistry that is readily affordable for students . . . but any institution involved in teaching undergraduate or postgraduate organic, petroleum or general geochemistry should consider purchasing multiple copies for their libraries."

Geological Magazine

From the Back Cover

An Introduction to Organic Geochemistry explores the fate of organic matter of all types, biogenic and man-made, in the Earth System. It investigates the variety of pathways and biogeochemical transformations that carbon compounds can experience over a range of time scales and in different environments.

The scope of this second edition has been widened to provide a broad and up-to-date background. The authors have structured the text to accommodate readers with varied scientific backgrounds. Essential terminology is defined fully and boxes are used to explain concepts introduced from other disciplines. Further study is aided by the incorporation of carefully selected literature references.

Geology, geochemistry and environmental science undergraduates and postgraduates, as well as students of ecology and oceanography, will find this text an essential introduction to organic geochemistry. Petroleum geologists will also find it an invaluable source of information.

Key topics covered include:

- the global carbon cycle and related elemental cycles;
- evolution of life and its influence on the carbon cycle through Earth history;
- production and chemical composition of biogenic matter;
- degradation vs. preservation of sedimentary organic matter in various environments;
- biological and thermal alteration in sediment, soil and water column;

- molecular and isotopic stratigraphy;
- greenhouse gases and palaeoclimatic variation;
- man's influence on biogeochemical cycles and global climate change; and
- factors affecting the behaviour of pollutants in the environment.

About the Author

Dr Steve Killops has been active in the field of organic geochemistry for some 20 years, in both academic and commercial sectors. He is a former lecturer in organic geochemistry at Royal Holloway College, London University and more recently the organic geochemist at the Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences in New Zealand. He is currently a consultant petroleum geochemist.

Vanessa Killops is a geologist and organic geochemist and has worked in petroleum exploration. She has also worked in New Zealand at the Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences as a contract geological scientist and in the UK on a consultancy basis.

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