

Contribution of inorganic carbon to CO₂ emissions under a Mediterranean agroforestry system

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Soil Carbon

Soil Organic Carbon (SOC)



and

Soil Inorganic Carbon (SIC)



0-30 cm 65% 1583 Gt SOC 35% 946 Gt SIC



Country boundaries are not authoritative.





Source : FAO-UNESCO, Soil Map of the World, digitized by ESRI. Soil climate map, USDA-NRCS, Soil Science Division, World Soil Resources, Washington D.C. Soil Pedon database, USDA-NRCS National Soil Survey Center, Lincoln, NE.

Soil Carbon

Soil Organic Carbon (SOC)

Unlocking the potential of mitigating and adapting to a changing climate



- SOC are
- all the form of organic matter
- Fine, coarse
- Labile, resistant
- Solid, in solution



Soil Inorganic Carbon (SIC)

Does SIC impact global C at short scales ? Does SIC impact SOC cycle ?



Calcareous soils are poorly studied

0-1 m

65%

35%

1583 Gt

SOC

946 Gt

SIC

Methodological issues to separate SOC and SIC dynamics

• Analyzing SOC and SIC in calcareous soils

Promising Mid-infrared spectrometry analysis See Chevallier et al. (poster in the EGU section) Prediction of SOC and SIC concentrations in Tunisian samples by midinfrared reflectance spectroscopy using a French national library



• Dynamics of C contents and stocks

At short incubation time (days, months), does the CO2 emitted come only from SOC decomposition ?





SOC and SIC interact via biological activities



- CC
- Solid, in solution, gaz

 $CaCO_3 + 2H^+ \xrightarrow{} Ca^{2+} + CO_2 + H_2O$ $CaCO_3 + H_2O + CO_2 \xrightarrow{} Ca^{2+} + 2 HCO_3^-$

Solid-solution-gaz equilibirum = $f(pH, H_20, pCO_2, Ca^{2+}, HCO_3^{-})$



- SIC interacts with CO₂ driven by biotic activities
- SOC and SIC evolution are likely link

Is SIC pool important to consider in SOC

studies in calcacerous soils?

Monger et al. 15, Geology

Methodological issues to separate SOC and SIC dynamics

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• Dynamics of C contents and stocks

Does the CO2 measured come only from SOC decomposition ?

If SIC contributes to CO2 emissions, is this contribution homogeneous along the soil profile?



Does depth impact SOC and SIC dynamics in the same way?

Is there a correlation between SOC and SIC dynamics ?



Material and methods



Agroforestry system (Walnut trees with durum wheat crop) Control plot (Durum wheat crop)

On Fluvisol, near Montpellier (south of France) described in Cardinael et al. 2015 SOC, SIC, C contents, and ¹³C were measured

4 depths x 3 locations (tree row, alley, control plot) x 4 replicates = 48 soil samples



Soil incubation for 44 days at 20°C

Kinetics of the amount of CO₂ emisssions and ¹³CO₂ emissions were measured



¹³C-Carbon Isotopic measurements

To separate SOC from SIC, and CO2 coming from SOC (SOC-CO2) isotopically different of CO2 coming from SIC (SIC-CO2)



4 soil depths



Carbon Isotopic measurements

 $\delta^{\rm 13}{\rm C}$ of SIC in a range +2 to -11 ‰

 δ^{13} C of SOC about -25 to -27 ‰ (C3 plants)

 $\delta^{\rm 13}{\rm C}$ of soil in between

 $\delta^{13}C_{soil} = f \,\delta^{13}C\text{-}SIC + (1-f) \,\delta^{13}C\text{-}SOC$



$$\delta^{13}C-CO_2 = f_{SIC} \delta^{13}C-SIC + (1-f_{SIC}) \delta^{13}C-SO$$
If no isotopic fractionations between
$$SOC \text{ and } CO_2 \text{ (biological activities)}$$

$$CaCO_3, HCO_3^-, CO_2$$

$$CO_2 = SIC-CO_2 + SOC-CO_2$$

$$SIC-CO_2 = f_{SIC} \times CO_2$$

$$SIC-CO_2 = (1-f_{SIC}) \times CO_2$$

Stevendon and Verburg, o6, Bertrand et al. 07, Rovira and Vallejo 08, Inglima et al. 09, Ramnarine et al. 12, Tamir et al. 11, 12, Ahmad et al. 14, Chevallier et al. 16...





SOC contents decreased with depth, especially under tree rows.

SIC content was homogeneous with soil depth and location (tree rows or alley).



SOC and δ^{13} C in Control plot was not represented as it is quite the same value as SOC and δ^{13} C in alley



SOC and δ^{13} C in Control plot was not represented as it is quite the same value as SOC and δ^{13} C in alley





- SOC under Tree row
- SOC under control (no significant differance with alleys)
- ----- CO₂ from soil at 35-44 days of incubation (tree rows); control ; alley)
- ____ SIC







- SOC under Tree row
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 $\delta^{\mbox{\tiny 13}}\mbox{\rm C-CO}_{\mbox{\tiny 2}}$ were between the $\delta^{\mbox{\tiny 13}}\mbox{\rm C-}$ SIC and $\delta^{\mbox{\tiny 13}}\mbox{\rm C-}$ SOC

SIC and SOC contributed both to CO₂ emissions

 $\delta^{13}C-CO_2 = f_{SIC} \delta^{13}C-SIC + (1-f_{SIC}) \delta^{13}C-SOC$

 δ^{13} C-CO₂ increased with soil depth f_{SIC} i.e. contribution of SIC to CO₂ emissions, increased with depth

- SOC under Tree row
- SOC under control (no significant differance with alleys)

----- CO₂ from soil at 35-44 days of incubation (tree rows); control ; alley)

----- SIC



 $CO_2 = SIC - CO_2 + SOC - CO_2$

Kinetics of SOC-CO₂ and SIC-CO₂ showed that the contribution of SIC-CO₂ to CO₂ emissions was significant during all the incubation period











If SIC contributes to CO2 emissions, is this contribution homogeneous along the soil profile?

Does depth impact SOC and

SIC dynamics in the same way?

Is there a correlation between SOC and SIC dynamics ?



SIC-CO₂ = $f_{S/C} \times CO_2$ $f_{S/C}$ increased with soil depth

If SIC contributes to CO2 emissions, is this $f_{src} = 0.15 - 0.30$ contribution homogeneous along the soil profile? $f_{src} = 0.5 - 0.7$

Does depth impact SOC and

SIC dynamics in the same way?

Is there a correlation between SOC and SIC dynamics ?

 CO_2 10-30 70-100

SIC-CO₂ = $f_{SIC} \times CO_2$ f_{SIC} increased with soil depth

If SIC contributes to CO2 emissions, is this contribution homogeneous along the soil profile?

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 $f_{SIC} = 0.15 - 0.30$

 $f_{SIC} = 0.5 - 0.7$

SOC, microbial biomass and CO₂ decreased with soil depth SOC-CO2 and SIC-CO2 decreased with soil depth Higher decrease for SOC in tree rows (-95%) than for SOC in the alleys (-87%) or for SIC (about -80%)

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 f_{SIC} increased with soil depth as the contribution of SIC to total C increased with depth. However, there was no linear correlation between f_{SIC} and the contribution of SIC to the total C content.

SOC-CO₂ and SIC-CO₂ emissions were linked

The more CO_2 was emitted by biological activities, the more CO_2 was emitted from the SIC



 CO_2 10-30 70-100

SIC-CO₂ = $f_{SIC} \times CO_2$ f_{SIC} increased with soil depth

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Is there a correlation between

 $f_{SIC} = 0.15 - 0.30$

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SOC and SIC dynamics?

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Conclusion



In calcareous soils, total CO2 values could overestimate soil respiration if the isotopic signature of the CO2 is not taken into account.

SIC contributes to CO2 emissions especially in soil deep horizons

SIC-CO2 and SOC-CO2 decrease with soil depth

There is a strong correlation between SIC and SOC emissions

To go beyond this result, more in-depth studies on carbonate dissolution-precipitation processes and their impact on CO2 emissions are needed. (Disentangle SOC and SIC dynamics with C isotopie, soil sterilization or O2 exchanges...)





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Please if interested in our work,

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The main results of this presentation come from Cardinael et al. 2019, Eur J Soil Sci, https://doi.org/10.1111/ejss.12908.

All the references quoted in the presentation are listed on the next slide











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