

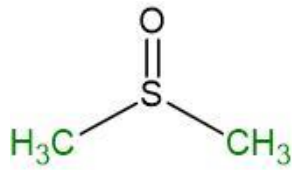
Iron catalysed formation of methyl radicals as a common source of environmentally important volatile carbon compounds



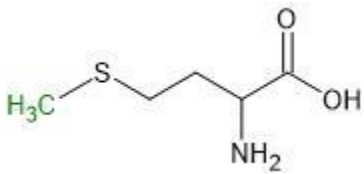
Jonas Hädeler¹, Rebekka Lauer¹, Velmurugan Gunasekaran², Kirsten Rheinberger^{1,2}, Peter Comba², Frank Keppler^{1,3}



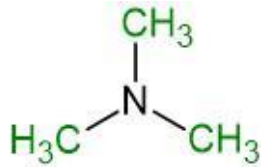
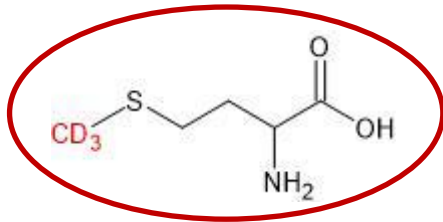
Studied substrates (ubiquitous in the environment)



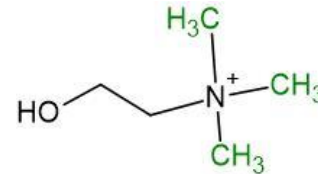
DMSO / DMSO d6



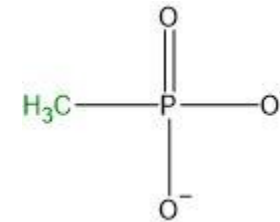
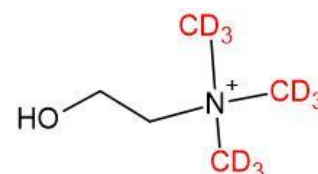
Methionine / Methionine d3 (essential amino acid)



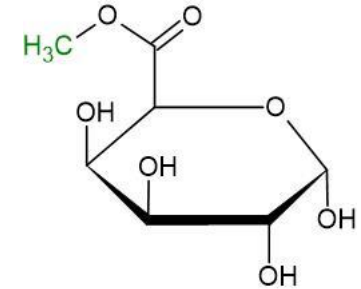
Trimethylamine / Trimethylamine d9



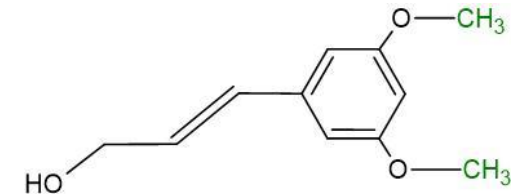
Choline/Choline d9



Methylphosphonate



Galacturonic acid methyl ester (pectin component)



Sinapyl alcohol (lignin component)

Proposed scheme for the formation of a methyl radical originated from methionine

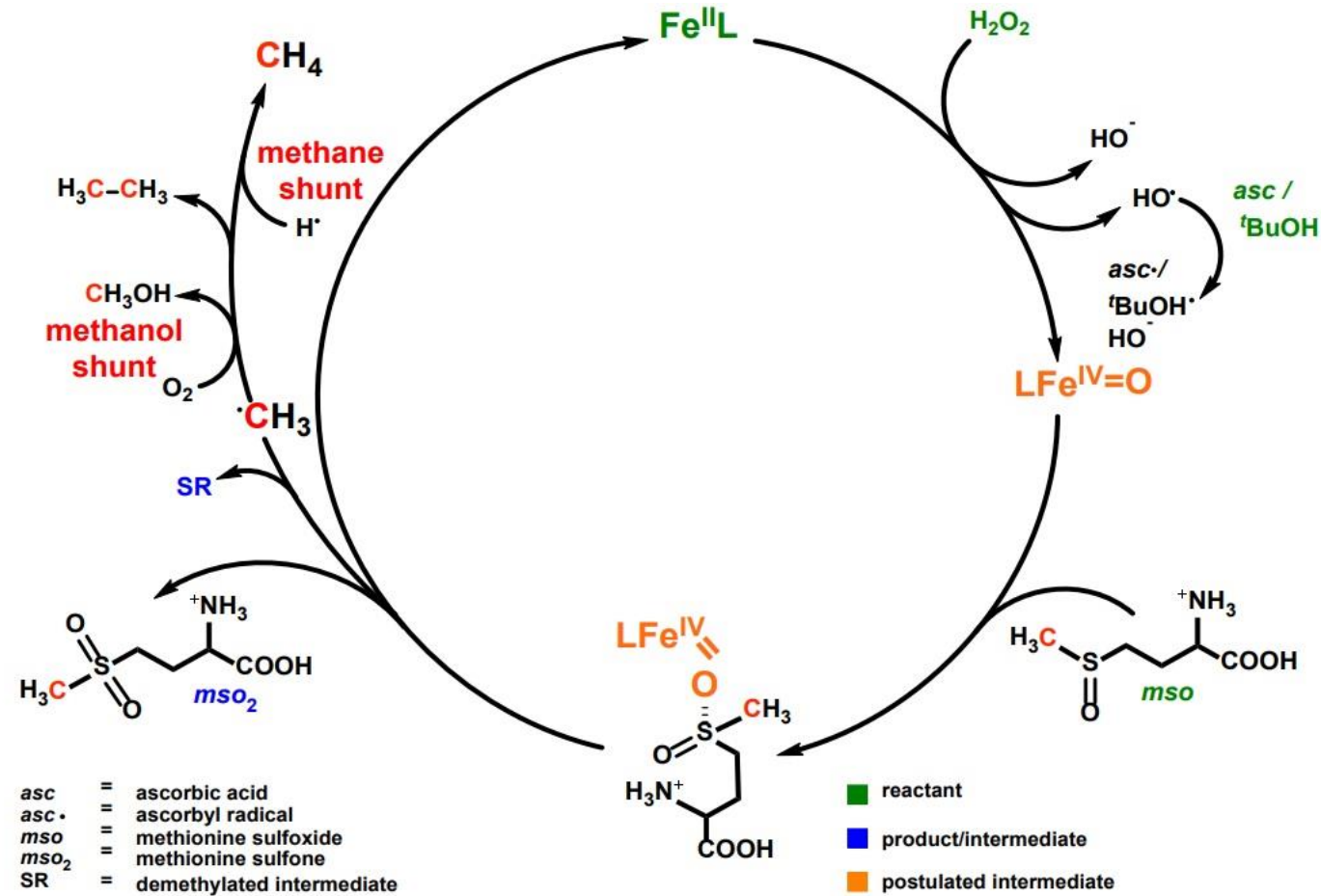
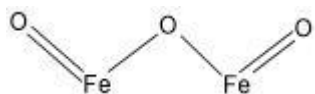
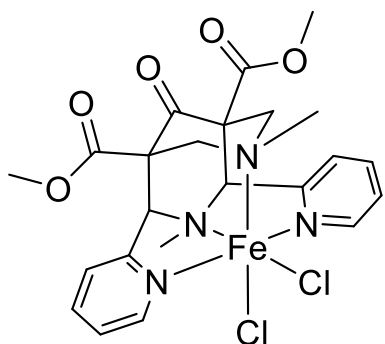


Figure modified after Althoff *et al.* 2014 and Benzing *et al.* 2017

Experimental setup



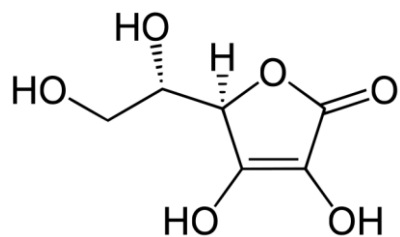
hematite



CH₃CN

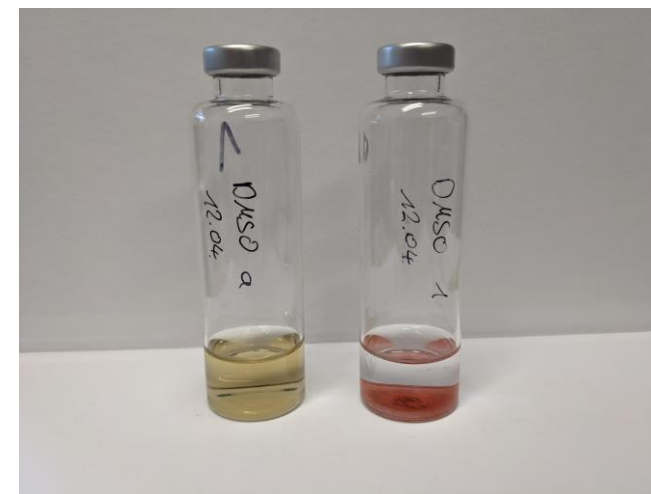
artificial bispidine
complex

[Fe(N₂Py₂)Cl₂]*CH₃CN



ascorbic acid

Reactant
Bispidine/Hematite
Ascorbic acid
Hydrogen peroxide (30%)
Substrate

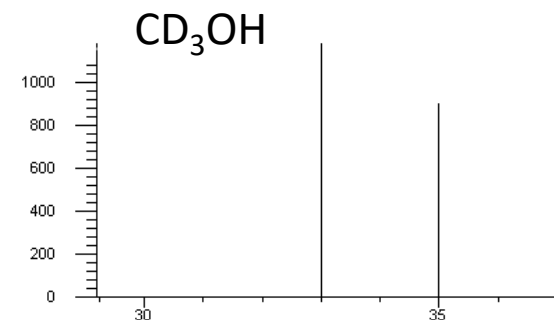
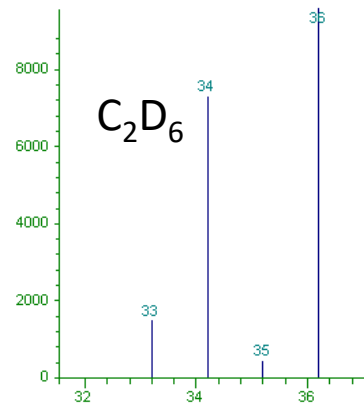
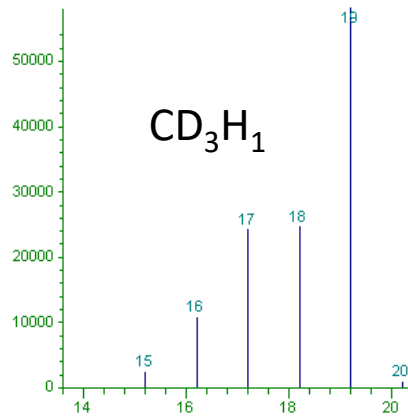
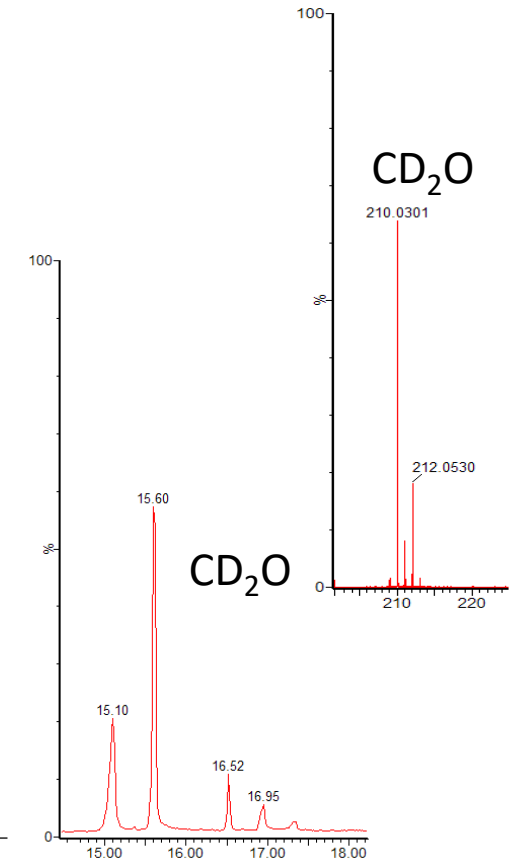
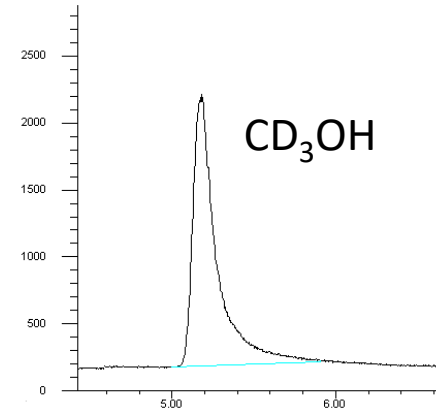
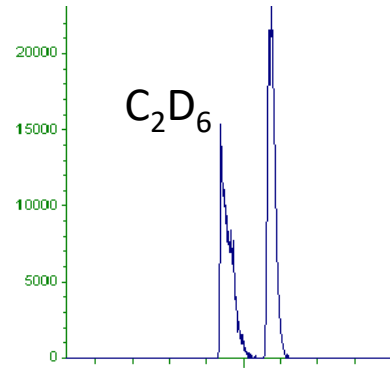
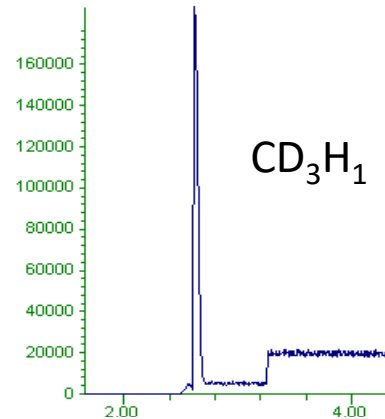


Measurement of ^2H -labeled methane, ethane, methanol and formaldehyde in the experiments with DMSO d6

Chromatograms
and measured
masses:

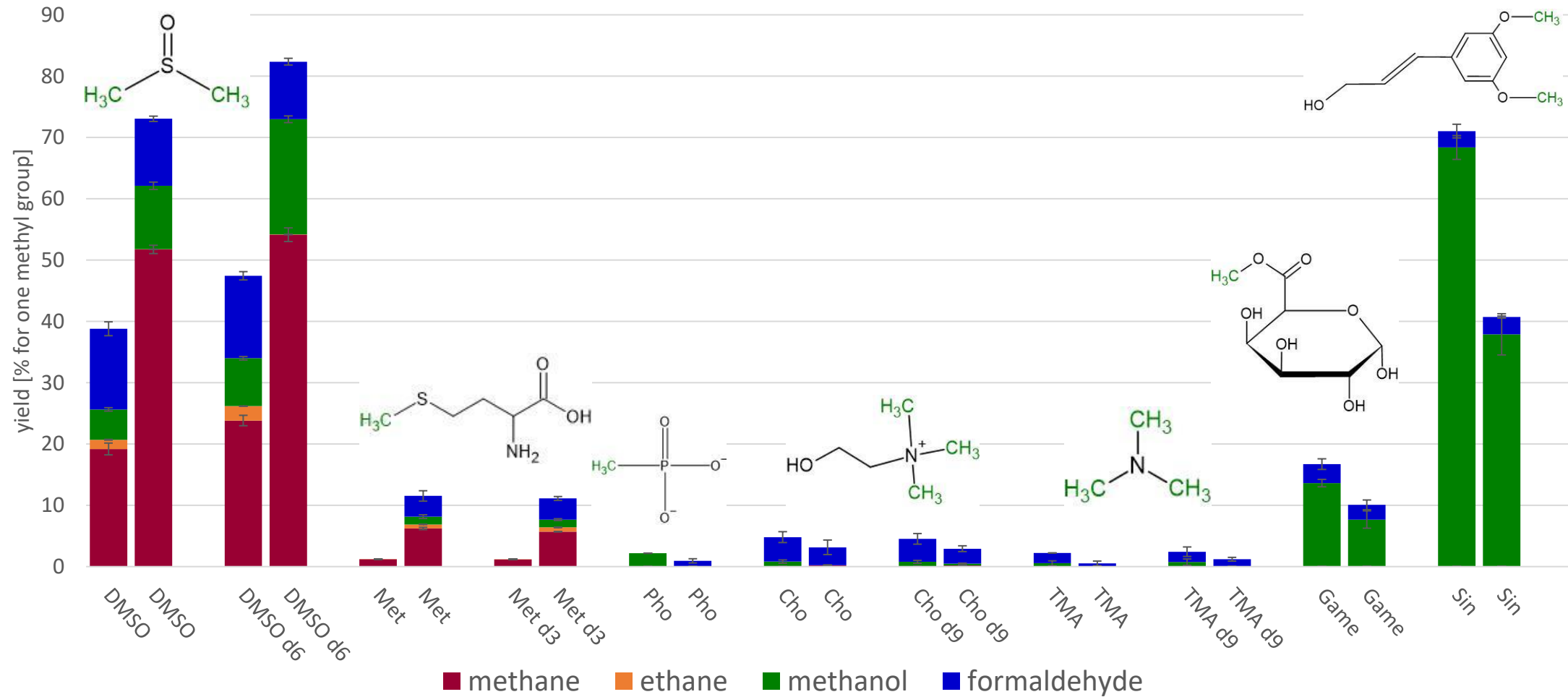
- CD_3H_1
- C_2D_6
- CD_3OH
- CD_2O

derivatized with
pentafluorophenyl-
hydrazine

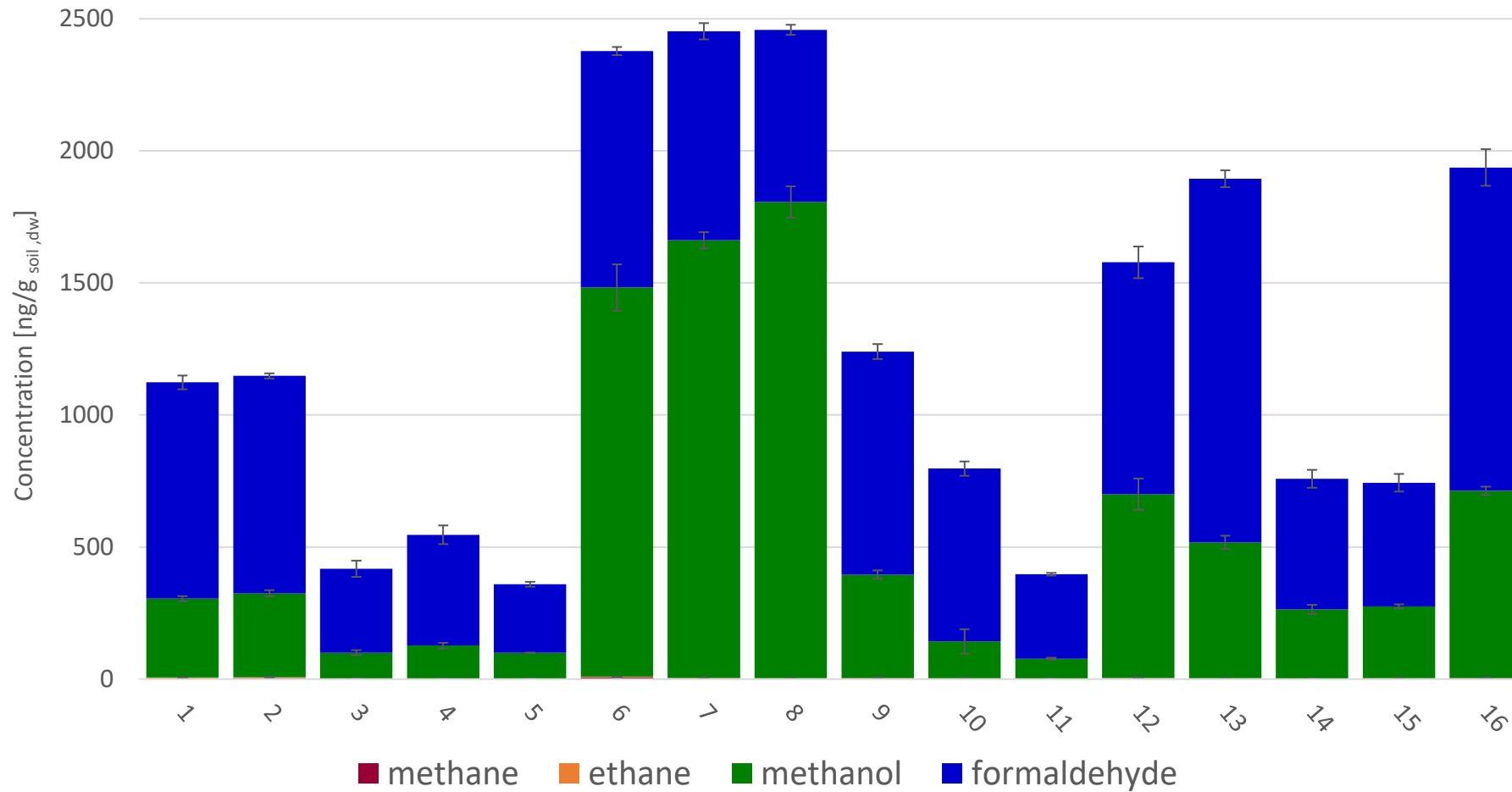


Yield of methane, ethane, methanol and formaldehyde

bispidine complex (left column) vs hematite (right column)



Experiments with different dried and sterile soils



Conclusion

- Clear evidence that the C₁-C₂-components originate from the S- N- P- and O-hetero-bonded methyl group
- Different yields of the C₁ and C₂ components depending on the precursor
- Sterile soil also has the ability to produce C₁-C₂ components
 - Mainly methanol and formaldehyde → may originate from Galacturonic acid methyl ester and sinapyl alcohol



Thank you for your attention

Please vote for me if you liked my presentation

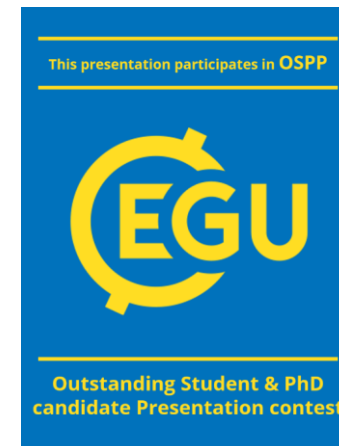
Iron catalysed formation of methyl radicals as a common source of environmentally important volatile carbon compounds

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References

- Althoff, F., Benzing, K., Comba, P., McRoberts, C., Boyd, D. R., Greiner, S., & Keppler, F. (2014). Abiotic methanogenesis from organosulphur compounds under ambient conditions. *Nature Communications*, 5(1), 1-9.
- Benzing, K., Comba, P., Martin, B., Pokrandt, B., & Keppler, F. (2017). Nonheme Iron-Oxo-Catalyzed Methane Formation from Methyl Thioethers: Scope, Mechanism, and Relevance for Natural Systems. *Chemistry—A European Journal*, 23(43), 10465-10472.

