



# The upper temperature limit of life under high hydrostatic pressure in the deep seafloor

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**Keywords:**  
 high hydrostatic pressure  
 high temperature  
 piezophile  
 psychrophile  
 deep seafloor

High hydrostatic pressure is a common factor in the deep sea and provides an important parameter of consideration in all studies related to deep life. High temperature environments in the deep sea mainly include hydrothermal vents and deep-sea mud volcanoes. In the upper ocean, a large amount of biomass production and diversity of life forms exist. In contrast, there are usually few psychrophilic piezophiles in the deep-sea environment. The dual role of high temperature and high pressure in the deep-sea environment is a significant role in the evolution of the upper temperature limit of life under deep-sea conditions. In this study, we help to estimate the boundary of the piezosphere and explore its relationship with the environment. The results remain uncertain. Here, we summarized the current knowledge of piezophilic correlation between high temperature and high pressure. The effect of high temperature on piezophilic organisms is mainly composed of piezophilic integrity and metabolic feasibility. The former has been investigated in many studies on various microorganisms from hydrothermal vents and deep-sea mud volcanoes. The latter is still unclear. The study has provided the theoretical basis for further investigation and called for more attention on metabolic response to high temperature and high pressure. This could provide a direct relationship between piezophilic and psychrophilic organisms to understand the microbial function in the deep seafloor and allow us to estimate the boundary of life and habitat.

## 1. Introduction

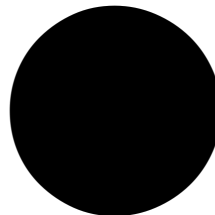
### 1.1. High hydrostatic pressure (HHP) is a common factor in the deep sea

More than 70% of the Earth's surface area and microbial communities of the oceanic crust are regarded as an important hidden diversity of elemental lineages in the ocean (Ruppel, 2002; Sano et al., 2004; Epifanio et al., 2006). The deep sea refers to water depth greater than 2000 m. The high hydrostatic pressure in seawater increases with depth. The high hydrostatic pressure in the deep sea is higher than the atmospheric pressure in the surface ocean. The average depth of the ocean is 3688 m. The high hydrostatic pressure in the deep sea is higher than the atmospheric pressure in the surface ocean.

In the large habitat of the deep seafloor in terms of volume (10<sup>14</sup> m<sup>3</sup>) (Hitman et al., 2005), general deep-sea piezophiles are not the predominant piezophiles that mean adapted to high hydrostatic pressure conditions (Tamurini et al., 2006). It is believed that piezophiles under elevated pressure represent the large habitat for microbial life on Earth and provide an overall enhanced microbial activity rate in deep-sea environments (Zard and Aniel, 2006). A pioneer in piezophilic studies (Artlett and Hollibaugh, 1988) has done a lot of work on hydrothermal vents. The study of piezophilic piezophiles is a very important area in microbiology. The study of piezophilic piezophiles and related piezophilic piezophiles and genetic mutations (Tamegai et al., 2006; Li et al., 2006; Arietou et al., 2006; Luo et al., 2006; Luo et al., 2006). The evolution of piezophilic piezophiles is an important factor in the proportion and in the evolution of piezophilic piezophiles in a well-studied piezophilic piezophile, the bacterium *Photobacterium profundum*, although their

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr.2016.03.001>



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of ediment are warmer than  $2^{\circ}$  and of marine ediment are warmer than  $0^{\circ}$  (Aro et al., 2010). In the Mariana Trench, the maximum depth of oceanic crust is 11 km and the lithology is primarily basaltic. In the Mariana Trench, the maximum depth of ediment and crust is 11 km and the lithology is primarily basaltic. In the Mariana Trench, the maximum depth of ediment and crust is 11 km and the lithology is primarily basaltic.

Thus far, microorganisms with the ability to grow at and above approximately  $122^{\circ}$  are all archaea (Rohlfing et al., 2014), with a *Pyrolobus fumarii* strain

### 1.3. What is the upper temperature limit for life under HHP?

The record for the deepest ediment has been raised several times. The record for edimentary microorganisms living at high temperature has also been updated (Ouellet et al., 2014; Euser et al., 2015). In 2014, Ouellet et al. provided evidence of prokaryotic life in the Mariana Trench at a depth of 11 km and a temperature of  $122^{\circ}$  and suggested that representative hyperthermophiles *Thermoplasma* and *Pyrococcus* are the only groups active in the deep seafloor at that depth (Ouellet et al., 2014). In 2015, Euser et al. provided evidence for microbial life in the Mariana Trench up to a depth of 11 km with hot ediment up to  $122^{\circ}$  in the anoxic Trough. The microbial community is dominated by different temperature organisms from  $122^{\circ}$  to  $100^{\circ}$ . The isolation and identification of methane are detected while at  $122^{\circ}$  -  $100^{\circ}$  the activity of acetate-degrading hyperthermophiles is detected. The results suggested that temperature is one of the factors limiting the microbial production in deep ediment and further showed that life in the deep seafloor is not constrained by an upper temperature limit (Euser et al., 2015).

For pure cultured microorganisms, the record for the highest growth temperature has been raised several times in the past decade. Thermophiles were first discovered in the hot springs of Yellowstone National Park in the 1920s and their highest growth temperature would reach  $122^{\circ}$  (Stampanoni et al., 1982). The first hyperthermophile, *Schizomycetes* in the form of a thermophilic archaeon with a maximum growth temperature of  $122^{\circ}$  were discovered in the Mariana Trench and (Rohlfing et al., 2014) with the discovery of hydrothermal vent in the Mariana Trench. The hyperthermophile has a maximum growth temperature exceeded  $122^{\circ}$  were isolated there (Aro et al., 2010). This is the first time it is realized that the upper temperature of life can reach  $122^{\circ}$ .

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them to maintain and survive. The current record at a provide a potential opportunity to investigate the upper temperature limit of life considering the effect of

The optimal growth temperature of microorganisms has been proposed to be closely related to the nucleotide content of the genome (Auer et al. in statistical and machine learning methods). It is often found that the protein sequence annotated from the complete genome predicts the optimal growth temperature of microorganisms (I et al.). These are analogous to the prediction of the optimum growth temperature from the microal dipeptide sequence and the optimal temperature of an enzyme are predicted from the sequence of the amino acid sequence of the individual enzyme. This method to predict the optimal growth temperature of some pieophilic thermophile mentioned above (Table). The optimal growth temperature prediction is often better than the experimental optimum growth temperature. On the one hand, the deviation may be due to a larger value of the optimum growth temperature. On the other hand, thermophile optimum growth temperature overestimate the pieophilic thermal tolerance. In addition to the tolerance of the protein structure of large molecules, there are other mechanisms for adaptation to the high temperature environment. In the training data model and the microal optimal growth temperature prediction model, the former are one and the latter are often used to predict the relationship of microal maximum growth temperature. In the training data set, the optimum growth temperature and the highest temperature of the microorganisms do not exhibit a linear relationship. It can be seen that the highest temperature of microorganisms are not completely determined by the genome. Therefore, the optimal prediction of the temperature adjustment needed to obtain the highest growth temperature may not be completely accurate.

to investigate the relationship between the growth temperature and the highest temperature of the microorganisms.

In this section, we review the nucleotide and potential influence from the thermophilic tolerance of membrane and macromolecules and the interaction and accumulation of molecules.

haperone and compatible solute under high temperature and in the situation of osmotic adaptation on cell and cellular component under high temperature.

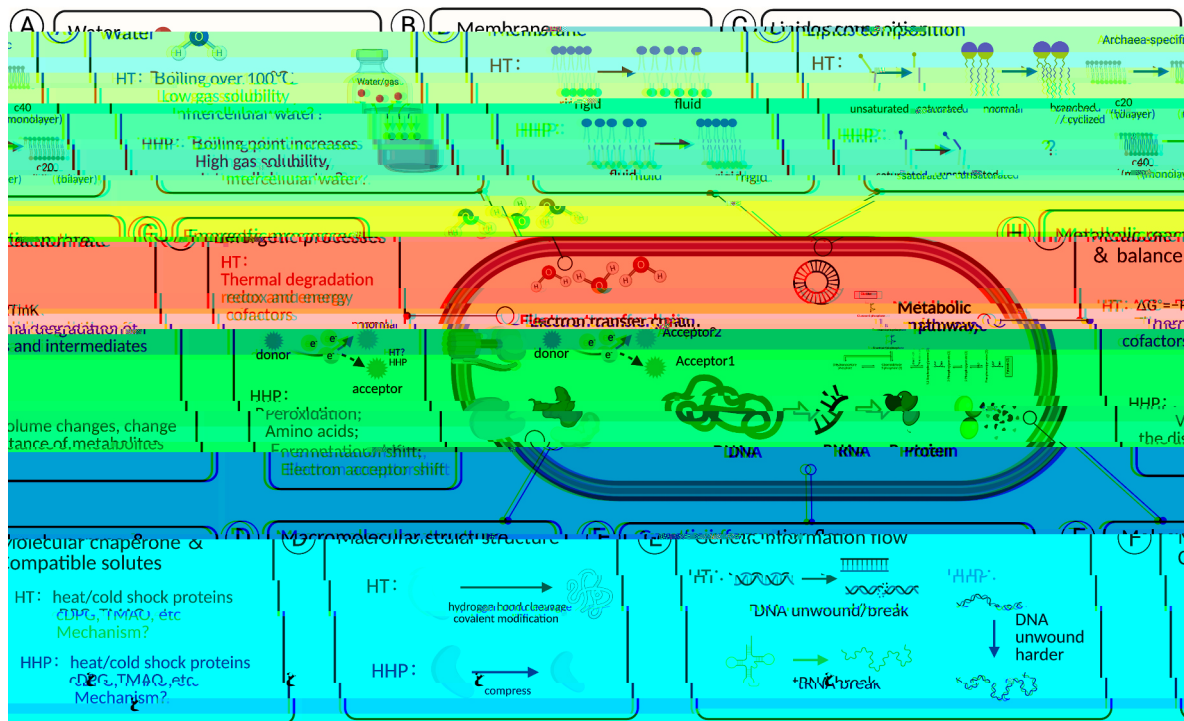


Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of the effect of high temperature and high hydrostatic pressure on cell and molecular processes in hyperthermophilic and piezophilic organisms.

relationship in this hyperthermophilic protein than in a mesophilic model protein. This provides evidence that the protein energy landscape is distorted by high pressure and is significantly different for hyperthermophilic and mesophilic proteins (Brennhauser et al., 2010). Trovati et al. used ultrafast rotational spectroscopy and dielectric relaxation spectroscopy to observe the random orientational motion of water molecules inside the lipid bilayer of three prokaryotic membranes (Brennhauser et al., 2010). They found that most of the intracellular water exhibited the same random orientational motion as neat water here a smaller fraction exhibited lower orientational dynamics. This intracellular water is proposed to be primarily protein-bound and to adhere to other biomolecules and ions (Trovati et al., 2010). In addition, the high dielectric permittivity of the reduced hydration water observed in hyperthermophilic piezophilic archaea is unique to the neutron scattering, which is proposed to be a potential clue to the molecular adaptation of the cell to high hydrostatic pressure (Martini et al., 2010). However, the detailed physical effects of temperature and/or pressure on intracellular water in both mesophilic and hyperthermophilic conditions remain a matter of debate.

### 3.2. Cell membrane

The cell membrane is essential for separating the intracellular environment from the outside. The integrity of the membrane enables the cell to maintain a relative stable internal environment to support biological functions in the face of harsh, often extreme external environment. The mobility of the cell membrane in response to high temperature (Trovati et al., 2010) with the application of lethal heat treatments, the mobility of the cell membrane may lead to the appearance of pores and structural damage, which are crucial for cell lysis. In addition, lethal heat treatments also have a great impact on the membrane protein and the permeability of the membrane. At lethal high temperature, membrane proteins, especially membrane proteins that are involved in redox reactions and the permeability of the membrane, are affected. Hyperthermophiles themselves have special membrane properties

allowing them to adapt to high-temperature or extreme hyperthermophilic bacteria enhance the thermal stability of membrane. In reaction, the proportion of saturated fatty acids in phospholipid molecules. In reaction, the length of phospholipid aliphatic chain and in reaction, the proportion of isomerized branched chain (Mano et al., 2010). Hyperthermophilic archaea use a monolayer membrane structure composed of long-chain tetraether lipids. These lipids are more rigid and impermeable than the bilayer eukaryotic cell membrane made of diacylglycerol. This impacts higher membrane thermal stability to resist the high-temperature environment (Honig et al., 2010). In addition, the incorporation of long-chain alcohols and the modification of the long-chain alcohols are also a factor for hyperthermophilic archaea to maintain the stability of membrane (Lirio et al., 2010). Most of the adaptation mechanisms enhance thermal stability through changes in membrane lipid and their composition. These changes generally help maintain membrane integrity and permeability. Like the low-temperature treatment leading to contraction, results at high temperature, i.e., expansion, and low temperature and high pressure may affect the membrane order and compress the packing of fatty acids (Aniel et al., 2010). Thus, the fluidity of the membrane is similar to that seen at low pressure under a pressure of 20 MPa (Imonata et al., 2010). As a result, a reaction in pressure is equivalent to a decrease in temperature. Under the same conditions, it is determined that the composition of the lipid temperature is high temperature in reaction, the entropy of the membrane and in reaction, it is disordered. High pressure will reduce the entropy. The increase in pressure reduces the fluidity of the membrane, so as to maintain the fluidity of the membrane within a relative temperature or membrane protein on the one hand, as mentioned above, the reaction in high hydrostatic pressure is conducive to the maintenance of the protein's structure to a certain extent, so as to maintain the protein's higher structure. On the other hand, due to the increased accumulation of lipid chain, an increase in protein-membrane interaction (Arslan et al., 2010). The increase in the fluidity of the membrane structure can maintain the stability of the membrane and the normal function of the membrane when

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3.3. Macromolecules

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deal with the cell damage caused by lethal heat stress. The accumulation of multiple compatible solutes and their *de novo* synthesis in the pathway have been identified and shown to be associated with various stress responses. In particular, the *in vivo* physiological and metabolic roles of these solutes are highlighted in our understanding of how compatible solutes are involved in the adaptation of extremophiles from the deep biosphere.

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Extremophiles from the deep biosphere are all hemotrophic microorganisms in the form of hemoautotrophs and hemoheterotrophs. The hemoautotrophic microorganisms are mainly anaerobic and a few are microaerophilic. The arrangement of metabolic pathways through the oxidation of and all the reductants of  $H_2$  and  $H_2S$  and  $H_2O$  and  $H_2O_2$ . The metabolic pathways of hemoheterotrophic extremophiles mainly include the metabolism of peptide and urea substrate. Their metabolic intermediates are in the form of different inorganic electron acceptors such as  $e^-$  and sulfur compounds in different oxidation states and even protons. Some of them contain more than one electron acceptor in the electron transfer chain with the presence of terminal electron acceptor the substrate will be oxidized to and/or converted to other organic products with low molecular weight. **hönheit and höheit** perthermophile have special characteristics in their metabolic pathways to address the effects of thermal stress. In addition, they differ from hemial reactions in the accumulation of toxic metabolites and low energy in the environment. The temperature distribution is similar to that of the local impact on metabolic pathways mentioned from the environment. Therefore, the dual temperature condition of high temperature and low energy addition in the environment on metabolic pathways summarizes the reported effects and potential.



Annier et al. and Ario et al. observed more amino acid requirements in a hyperthermophilic piezophile under high hydrostatic pressure. It is concluded that the low energy yield of fermentation of organic polymers together with energy constraints imposed by high hydrostatic pressure may render *de novo* synthesis of amino acids of all unfavourable (Ario et al., 2019). It is still too early to draw conclusions on how high temperature and impact metamorphism and tectonics affect the interaction between the two factors are. Further experimental work with respect to the quantitative analysis needed to highlight on high temperature and impact metamorphism individually and how they cooperate.

**Conclusion and prospect**

Temperature is considered the limit for life and habitat. The discovery of life in high temperature environment in the deep sea is a hydrothermal vent and deep sea or profound extended our view of the boundary of life and the habitat environment of the earth with the recognition of the significant impact of oceanic crustal activity on the high temperature piezophilic and metamorphic processes of life in the deep sea and deep seafloor. It has been demonstrated that the relationship and contrast effect of high temperature and oceanic crustal interrelationship of metamorphism are not linear. The area potential energy is related to the individual features of either high temperature or not to mention the mechanism of crustal adaptation to environmental metamorphism may provide a direct evidence of oceanic crustal and oceanic. The current knowledge regarding metamorphic limit under conditions of the real microcosmic environment mediated by the elemental level under *in situ* polycrystalline environment in the deep sea and hinder our estimation of the boundary for life and habitat are lost.

Based on the knowledge of the evolution of the exploration of the upper temperature limit of life and the correlation between high temperature and the relationship of the relationship further investigation there are on environmental evolution in metamorphism under high temperature and organic hydrostatic pressure. Both fermentation and respiration are favourable 'natural' effect under both high temperature and high organic hydrostatic pressure. The real upper temperature limit of life and high organic hydrostatic pressure will hold the next trend.

**Conflict of interest**

The author declares no conflict of interest.

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The author is supported by the following funding: our research is the natural science foundation of China grant number 41876102 and "Double First-Class" initiative.

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