**Imaging techniques for ichnological analysis - application to deep-sea deposits**

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During the last decades, ichnological studies have become popular in diverse fields of Earth Sciences, including palaeoecology, sedimentology, palaeoceanography and basin analysis, as well as applied fields for the oil and gas industry. Many of these studies are based on well cores, where ichnological research is hampered by certain limitations (i.e., mainly narrow exposed surface and poor visibility), and the characterization of ichnological properties is not an easy matter. To facilitate ichnological analysis, 2D and 3D imaging techniques (among them, high-resolution image treatments, X-rays and computed tomography) have been successfully used. This talk will provide an overview of the usefulness of image treatment (2D and 3D) in ichnological analysis. Moreover, it will show some of its applications and discuss the interest for exploring petroleum systems.