Responses and revision descriptions

Dear Prof. Gerard Govers

Thank you very much for your comments and giving these great suggestions, which make this paper improved a lot.

We have done a major revision according to these suggestions, and the responses and revision descriptions are following below.

I. - The structure of the paper needs improvement. Now, there is still to much mixing of methods, results and discussion. Furrthermore, the results are not all well presented: you report that dolostone and limestone tables were used but only discuss the limestone results because the dolostone results were similar. I would suggest all available data should be presented, at least in tabular form in an appendix and that at least a graph is included showing that the results are indeed similar.

Changed: we added some contents of statistical analysis, and analyzed the relationship between dolostone and limestone weathering based on the results of ANOVA analysis.

2 - With respect to the structure of the paper, the following guidelines may be useful to you:

Introduction: explain the state of the art.

- Weathering may be impacted by mineral fertilization
- But impact of different types of fertilizers not known
- Therefore we conducted experiments

Changed: we revised the section like this

3. Materials and methods:

- Description of the experimental set up
- study area, including meteo data and more infor on the soil (grain size Ph, SOC content in a small table)
- columns : size, way of filling, resulting bulk density of the soil.....
- measurement procedure for the tablets and presentation of the way losses are calculated
- the description needs to include a justification of some or your decisions on the methods: why this size of columns ? Why 30 times more fertilizer ? Why did you choose this length for the measuring period ?

Changed: we added the description mentioned above, including grain size, bulk density.

The primary reasons why we set up the amount of added fertilizer in this study are: (1) the soil we used is untilled fresh soil which we sampled from B layer. Considering its

low nutrition, we set up a higher fertilizer amount. (2)We just want to explore the different response of these different on carbonate weathering, and magnify and quicken the short-term response. (3) It is a simple pre-study, but we think some findings are worthy published especially to CO_2 consumption via carbonate weathering at agricultural areas.
Considering its misleading possibility, we decided to delete the relative (30 times) statement.

4. Results
- Presentation of the results: no discussion and no further justification of the study or certain decision taken
- Presentatiion of the weathering rates
- Statistical analysis : for which treatments are rates significantly different: this can be done with an ANOVA analysis. I suggest to include the type of tablet as a class variable here so that we can see whether or not the results for limestone and dolostone are similar

Changed: we added the relative ANOVA analysis.

5. Discussion
- A key element in the discussion are the weathering reactions: I suggest to have the generic weathering reactions in the text (paragraph 4.2) and then have the fertilizer-specific reactions in a table. In this table you can then also indicate the amount of NH4 per mole of fertilizer
- After having done this you can proceed to discuss the differences between the treatments. I think this is already more or less covered in the current version of the MS but it needs to be presented more clearly
- Then you may discuss the fact that CO2 consumption by weaterhing may be wrongly estimated if the contributions of (different) fertilizers is not accounted for
- Finally you have to compare your results with other data: now, there is no quantitative comparison whatsoever with results from other studies. Nevertheless, this is possible: you can calculate a weathering rate from your results and make than reasonable assumptions to make a calculation for larger areas that could be compared to the results of earlier studies whcih you already cite.

Changed: we rewrite the discussion section according to these suggestions above. Thank u again.

6. The English used is not yet up to international standards. The paper really needs a revision by a native speaker

Changed: we changed the mistakes you noted in pdf file and checked the language problems for several times. PLEASE correct it if conveniently.

8. We did the edition and correction in terms of the notes in pdf file.

Thank you SO much for your favor to improve our manuscript.

Best regards,

Song Chao etc.

Impact of different fertilizers on the carbonate weathering in a typical karst area, Southwest China: a field column experiment

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Abstract: Carbonate weathering, as a significant vector for the movement of carbon both between and within ecosystems, are strongly influenced by ~~anthropogenic perturbations such as~~ agricultural fertilization~~.~~ since the addition of fertilizers tends to change the chemical characteristics of soil such as pH value. Different fertilizers may exert a different impact on carbonate weathering, but ~~their~~ these discrepancies~~differences~~ are not still well-known so far. In this study, a field column experiment was ~~employed~~ conducted to explore the responses of carbonate weathering to the addition of different fertilizers~~s addition~~. ~~The eleven different treatments with three replicates including control, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, $NaNO_3$, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$, $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$, $(NH_4)_3PO_4$, fused calcium-magnesium phosphate fertilizer (Ca-Mg-P), Urea and K_2CO_3 were established in this column experiment, where limestone and dolostone tablets were buried at the bottom of each to determine the weathering amount and ratio of carbonate in soil.~~ We compared 11 different treatments including a control treatment using 3 replicates per treatment. Carbonate weathering was assessed by measuring the weight loss of carbonate and dolomite tablets buried at the bottom of the columns. The result showed that the addition of urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ distinctly increased carbonate weathering, which was attributed to the nitrification of NH_4^+~~,~~$^+$. ~~and t~~The addition of $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$, Ca-Mg-P and K_2CO_3 induced carbonate precipitation due to common ion effect. ~~Whereas the~~The addition of $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ and $NaNO_3$ ~~addition~~ did not significantly impact ~~significantly on~~ carbonate weathering. The results of $NaNO_3$ treatment ~~seem to be raising~~raise a new question: the negligible~~little~~ impact of nitrate

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on carbonate weathering may result in the overestimation of impact of N-fertilizer on CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale if the effects of NO_3 and NH_4 are not distinguished. ~~Moreover, in order to avoid misunderstanding more or less, the statement that nitrogenous fertilizer can aid carbonate weathering should be replaced by ammonium fertilizer.~~

Keywords: Carbonate weathering; Column experiment; Nitrogenous fertilizer; Phosphate fertilizer; Southwest China

1. Introduction

Carbonate weathering plays a significant role in consumption of ~~the elevated~~ atmospheric CO_2 (Kump et al., 2000; Liu et al., 2010; 2011)~~(Kump et al., 2000; Liu et al., 2010; 2011)~~. The riverine hydro-chemical composition such as the ratio of HCO_3^- ~~and~~ to $Ca^{2+}+Mg^{2+}$ is usually employed as an indicator to estimate the CO_2 consumption by natural carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale (Hagedorn and Cartwright, 2009; Li et al., 2009)~~(Hagedorn and Cartwright, 2009; Li et al., 2009)~~. However, fluvial alkalinity may also be produced by other processes including the reaction between carbonates and the protons derived (i) from the nitrification of N-fertilizer ~~a disturbance to CO_2 consumption estimation is introduced because the fluvial alkalinity, Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} may also be produced due to the reaction between carbonate and the protons which can originate from the nitrification processes of N-fertilizer~~ (Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Chao et al., 2011; Gandois et al., 2011;

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Hamilton et al., 2007; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Perrin et al., 2008; Pierson-wickmann et al., 2009; Semhi and Suchet, 2000; West and McBride, 2005)~~(Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Chao et al., 2011; Gandois et al., 2011; Hamilton et al., 2007; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Perrin et al., 2008; Pierson-wickmann et al., 2009; Semhi and Suchet, 2000; West and McBride, 2005)~~, (ii) from the sulfuric acid (Lerman and Wu, 2006; Lerman et al., 2007; Li et al., 2008; Li et al., 2009)~~(Lerman and Wu, 2006; Lerman et al., 2007; Li et al., 2008; Li et al., 2009)~~, (iii) from organic acid secreted by microorganisms (Lian et al., 2008)~~(Lian et al., 2008),~~ as well as (iv) from acidic soil (Chao et al., 2014)~~(Chao et al., 2014)~~. ~~-~~Given ~~the~~ that atmospheric CO_2 is not the unique weathering agent, differentiating the agent of carbonate weathering is ~~more and more significant to enable~~important for the accurate budgeting of the net CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering, especially in agricultural areas where mineral fertilizers are used~~area~~.

The world average annual increase in mineral fertilizer consumption was 3.3% from 1961 to 1997, and FAO's study predicts a 1% increase per year until 2030 (FAO, 2000). For China, the consumption of chemical fertilizer increased from 12.7 Mt in 1980 to 59.1 Mt in 2013 (Fig. 1). The Increasing consumption of ~~chemical~~ mineral fertilizer is a significant disturbance factor of carbonate weathering and carbon cycle. ~~Many~~ Several studies showed that nitrogen fertilizer additions ~~aided~~ increased ~~in the dissolution of lime~~ weathering rates and increased the total export of DIC from agricultural watersheds (Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Gandois et al., 2011; Hamilton et al., 2007; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Perrin et al., 2008; Pierson-wickmann et al.,

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2009; Probst, 1986; Semhi and Suchet, 2000; West and McBride, 2005)(Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Gandois et al., 2011; Hamilton et al., 2007; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Perrin et al., 2008; Pierson-wickmann et al., 2009; Probst, 1986; Semhi and Suchet, 2000; West and McBride, 2005). According to the estimation fromestimates by Probst (1988) and Semhi et al. (2000), the contribution of N-fertilizers to carbonate dissolution represents was 30% and 12-26%, respectively, onin two small agricultural carbonate basins in south-western France, the Girou and the Gers respectively (subtributary and tributary of the Garonne river, respectively). For lager basin level, such as the Garonne river basin, which is larger basin (52,000 km^2), this contribution was estimated at 6% by Semhi et al. (2000). At national and global scales, Perrin et al. (2008) estimated that the deficit contribution of CO_2 uptake due to N-fertilizer addition (usually in form of NH_4NO_3) represent up to 5.7-13.4% and only 1.6-3.8% of the total CO_2 flux naturally consumed byto carbonate dissolution, for France and on a global scale, respectively.

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These estimated results estimates described above were usually based on calculations assuming that a single type of fertilizer (e.g. $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, NH_4NO_3, or NH_4Cl) was used throughout the whole basin that was considered. Howeverwere usually based on a hypothesis of individual fertilizer (e.g. $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, NH_4NO_3, or NH_4Cl) input into an agricultural basin. Nevertheless, at an agricultural basin, different fertilizers are usually added for different crops in actual agricultural practices. The impact of these fertilizers on carbonate weathering and riverine chemical composition may be different. For nitrogenous fertilizer, 100% NO_3^- produced after the addition $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ and NH_4Cl derive from the nitrification of NH_4^+, comparatively, only 50% after the addition NH_4NO_3. The difference of NO_3^- source may cause the evaluated deviation of the impact of N-fertilizer addition on CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering. Because the addition of different N-fertilizers (e.g. $(NH_4)_2SO_4$, NH_4NO_3, NH_4Cl, $NaNO_3$ or urea) may result in different contributions to carbonate weathering and relative products such as HCO_3^-, Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+}. For phosphate fertilizer, the coprecipitaion of phosphate ions with calcium carbonate may inhibit carbonate weathering (Kitano et al., 1978)~~(Kitano et al., 1978)~~. We suppose that the response of carbonate weathering to the addition of different fertilizer such as N-fertilizer (NH_4 and NO_3), P-fertilizer and Ca/Mg fertilizer may display difference, which is poorly known so far but significant to well understand the agricultural force on natural carbonate weathering and accurately evaluate the CO_2 consumption via carbonate weathering in agricultural area.

Moreover, ~~T~~the carbonate-rock-tablet test is used to determine the weathering rate of carbonate rock/mineral from laboratory to field (Chao et al., 2014; Chao et al., 2011; Dreybrodt et al., 1996; Gams, 1981; Gams, 1985; Jiang and Yuan, 1999; Liu and Dreybrod, 1997; Plan, 2005; Trudgill, 1975)~~(Gams, 1981; Chao et al., 2011; Trudgill, 1975; Chao et al., 2014; Dreybrodt et al., 1996; Gams, 1985; Jiang and Yuan, 1999; Liu and Dreybrod, 1997; Plan, 2005)~~. In laboratory, the carbonate-rock-tablet is employed to study the kinetics of calcite dissolution/precipitation (Dreybrodt et al., 1996; Liu and Dreybrod, 1997)~~(Dreybrodt et al., 1996; Liu and Dreybrod, 1997)~~ and determine the rate of carbonate mineral weathering in soil column (Chao et al., 2011)~~(Chao et al., 2011)~~. However, in field, it is also used to observe the rate of carbonate weathering and estimated CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering (Chao et al., 2014; Jiang and Yuan, 1999; Jiang et al., 2013; Plan, 2005)~~(Chao et al., 2014;~~

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Jiang and Yuan, 1999; Jiang et al., 2013; Plan, 2005). Although Liu (2011) argue that the carbonate-rock-tablet test may lead to the deviation of estimated CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale in the case of insufficient representative data (Liu, 2011)(Liu, 2011), our results show thatyet it is a preferred option for the condition controlled contrast or stimulated experiment (Chao et al., 2014; Chao et al., 2011)(Chao et al., 2011; Chao et al., 2014),. Where the result from the carbonate-rock-tablet test is consistent to the major element geochemical data of leachates from soil column(Chao et al., 2011).

ThusTherefore, in order to observe their difference between the impacts of different fertilizer addition on carbonate weathering in soil, a field column experiment embedding carbonate rock tablets with eleven different treatments was carried out in a typical karst area of southwest China to observe the impacts of different fertilizer addition on carbonate weathering in soil.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 The study site

This study was carried out in a typical karst area, the HuaXi Huaxi district of Guiyang city, Guizhou province, SW China (26°23′N, 106°40′E, 1094 m asl). Guiyang, the capital city of Guizhou Province, is located in the central part of The Province, covering an area from 26°11′00″ to 26°54′20″N and 106°27′20″ to 107°03′00″E (about 8,000 km^2), with elevations ranging from 875 to 1655 m above mean sea level. Guiyang has a population of more than 1.5 million people, a high diversity of karstic landforms, a high elevation and low latitude, with a subtropical warm-moist climate, annual average temperature of 15.3 ℃ and annual precipitation of 1200 mm (Lang et al., 2006)(Lang et al., 2006). A monsoonal climate often results

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in high precipitation during summer and much less during winter, although the humidity is often high during most of the year (Han and Jin, 1996)~~(Han and Jin, 1996)~~. Agriculture is a major land use in order to produce the vegetables and foods in the suburb of Guiyang (Liu et al., 2006)~~(Liu et al., 2006)~~. The consumption of chemical fertilizer increased from ~~0.8~~ 150 kg/ha ~~Mt~~ in 1980 to ~~1.0~~190 kg/ha ~~Mt~~ in 2013 (GBS, 2014)~~(GBS, 2014)~~.

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2.2 Soil properties

The soil used in this column experiment was sampled from the B horizon (below 20 cm in depth) of yellow-brown soil in ~~dug from~~ a cabbage-corn or capsicum-corn rotation plantation in Huaxi district~~,~~. It was air-dried, ground to pass through a 2-mm sieve, mixed thoroughly and used for soil columns. The pH (V_{soil}:V_{water} = 1:2.5) were determined by pH meter. The chemical characteristics of soil in~~-~~cluding organic matter (OM), NH_4-N, NO_3-N, available P, available K, available Ca, available Mg, available S and available Fe were determined according to the Agro Services International (ASI) Method~~-~~ (Hunter, 1980)~~(Hunter, 1980)~~, where the extracting solution used for O~~.~~M~~.~~ contained 0.2 mol l^{-1} NaOH, 0.01 mol l^{-1} EDTA, 2% methanol and 0.005% Superfloc 127, NH_4-N, NO_3-N, available Ca and Mg were determined based on extraction by 1 mol l^{-1} KCl solution, available K, P and Fe were extracted by extracting solution containing 0.25 mol l^{-1} $NaHCO_3$, 0.01 mol l^{-1} EDTA, 0.01 mol l^{-1} NH_4F, and 0.005% Superfloc 127, and available S was extracted by 0.1 mol l^{-1} $Ca(H_2PO_4)_2$ and 0.005% Superfloc 127. The results are shown in Table 1.

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2.3 Soil column and different fertilization treatments

In order to test the hypothesis that the responses of the impact of different chemical fertilizer on carbonate weathering may be different, columns (Ø=20cm, H= 15cm) were constructed from 20-cm diameter polyvinylchloride (PVC) pipe (Fig. 2). A hole (Ø=2 cm) were established at the bottom of each column to discharge soil water from ~~of~~ soil column. A polyethylene net ~~mesh~~ (Ø 0.5 mm) was placed in the bottom of the columns to prevent ~~the~~ soil loss ~~of the filter material~~. A filter sand layer with 2 cm thickness including gravel, coarse sand and fine sand was spread on the net. Two different carbonate rock tablets were buried in the bottom of each soil column (Fig .2). According to common kinds of chemical fertilizer and the main objective of this study, eleven fertilization treatments with three replicates in the field column experiment were set up: (1)control without fertilizer (CK); (2)43g NH_4NO_3 fertilizer (CF); (3)85g NH_4HCO_3 fertilizer (NHC); (4)91g $NaNO_3$ fertilizer (NN); (5)57g NH_4Cl fertilizer (NCL); (6)51g $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ fertilizer (NC); (7)52g $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ fertilizer (CP); (8)15g $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ fertilizer (NP); (9)44g fused calcium-magnesium phosphate fertilizer (Ca-Mg-P); (10) 32g Urea fertilizer (U) and (11) 10g K_2CO_3 fertilizer (PP). ~~To shorten the experiment time and enhance the effect of fertilization, the added amount of fertilizers in these treatments motioned above was increased to 30 times than its local practical amount (N fertilizer: 160 kg N·ha^{-1}; P fertilizer: 50 kg P·ha^{-1}; K fertilizer: 50 kg K·ha^{-1}).~~ The 6 kg soil was weighed (bulk density=1.3 g/cm^3), mixed perfectly with above fertilizer, respectively, and filled in its own column. These soil columns were placed at the field experiment site in Guiyang of Southwestern China for a whole year.

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2.4 The rate of carbonate weathering

Two different kinds of carbonate rock tablets (2 cm × 1 cm × 0.5 cm in size) were established in the bottom of each soil column to explore the rate of carbonate weathering in soil. The two different kinds of carbonate rock collected from karst area of Huaxi district were (1) limestone with 60-65% micrite, 30-35% microcrystalline calcite and 2-3% pyrite and (2) dolostone with 98-99% power crystal dolomite, ~~3-5% microcrystalline calcite~~, 1% pyrite and ~~little~~ trace quantities organic matter. All of tablets were ~~baked~~ heated at 80 ℃ for 4 hours then weighed in a 1/10000 electronic balance in the laboratory, tied to a label with fishing line and buried at the bottom of each soil column. They were taken out carefully, rinsed, baked and weighed after a whole year.

The amount of weathering ~~carbonate weathering~~ (A~~c~~*w*), the ratio of ~~carbonate~~ weathering ~~-~~(R~~c~~*w*) and the rate of ~~carbonate~~ weathering (R*a*~~c~~*w*) for limestone and dolomite were calculated according to the weight difference of the tablets using the following formulas:

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A~~c~~*w* = (W*i*-W*f*) (1)

R~~c~~*w* = (W*i*-W*f*)/ W*i* (2)

R*a*~~c~~*w* = (W*i*-W*f*)/(S*T) (3)

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where W*i* is the initial weight of the carbonate rock tablets, W*f* is their final weights, S is the surface area of carbonate weathering tablets, and T is the length of the experimental period.

2.4 Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using IBM SPSS 20.0 (Statistical Graphics Crop, Princeton, USA). All results of carbonate weathering were reported as the means ±standard deviations (SD)~~means standard errors (SE)~~ for the three replications. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to determine the differences of weathering rate between limestone and dolostone. ~~Statistical analysis was performed using IBM SPSS 20.0 (Statistical Graphics Crop, Princeton, USA).~~

3. Results

3.1 The weathering rate of carbonate under different fertilized treatments

~~weathering of under different treatments~~The ~~amount (A~~R*~~a~~cw*~~),~~ and ~~the ratio (~~~~R*acw*~~ ~~) and the rate (R*acw*)~~ of limestone and dolostone~~carbonate~~ ~~weathering~~were listed ~~–~~in Table 2. ~~were listed~~ The results showed that ~~in Table 2, and the R*cw* were plotted in Fig. 3. The results in Table 2 and Fig. 3 The results showed T~~the ~~A*cw*,~~ R*cw* ~~and R*acw*,~~ of ~~carbonate weathering~~limestone ~~and dolomite weathering~~ under urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$~~NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl~~ and NH_4HCO_3 ~~$(NH_4)_2CO_3$~~ treatments were 8.48 ±0.96, 6.42 ±0.28, 5.54 ±0.64, 4.44 ±0.81 and 4.48 ±0.95‰ (mean ±SD, $p<0.05$)~~ positive~~, ~~and~~ much bigger than that under the control treatment 0.48 ±0.14‰ (see Fig. 3~~,~~) as observed in dolomite (6.59 ±0.67, 5.30 ±0.87, 4.77 ±0.78, 4.94 ±1.91 and 3.22 ±0.87‰ under these five fertilization treatments vs. -0.31 ±0.09‰ in control treatment). This ~~suggesting~~ manifested that the addition of these five fertilizers ~~can aid and~~ increased the rate of ~~the chemical weathering of~~ carbonate weathering~~.~~.

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According to the results of ANOVA analysis, the rest treatments had no significant differences ($p>0.05$) in the R*w* and R*cw* of limestone and dolomite in comparison with control treatment (Table 2). In $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatment, the ~~A*cw*~~R*w*, and R*a*~~*c*~~*w* were only 1.08±0.34‰~~-0.0028g~~ and ~~-0.0007~~0.75±0.21‰~~g~~ for limestone and dolomite, 4.00±1.15 g m^{-2} a^{-1}~~-1.08‰~~ and 1.00±1.01~~-0.75~~ g m^{-2} a^{-1}~~‰~~ for limestone and dolomite, respectively, less than those under other four NH_4-fertilizers as mentioned above. The ~~A*cw*, R*cw*~~ R*w* and R*a*~~*c*~~*w* in $NaNO_3$ treatment failed to show a remarkable difference with the control treatment, ~~implying~~ exhibiting little effect of $NaNO_3$ fertilizer addition on carbonate weathering (Fig. 3). – ~~However, e~~Except the R*cw* of limestone in $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ treatment approaching zero, all the values of ~~the A*cw*,~~ R*cw* and R~~*ac*~~*aw* ~~of two different carbonate~~ in Ca-Mg-P~~ and~~, K_2CO_3 and $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ treatments showed a negative value, indicating that the addition of Ca-Mg-P , K_2CO_3 and $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ fertilizers can lead to the precipitation at the surface of carbonate mineral, which can be explained by common ion effect.

3.2 The comparison of limestone of dolomite

The statistical significance ~~result~~ of the R*w* between limestone and dolomite using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was 0.320 (>0.05), suggesting that ~~ANOVA was use the~~ the results between limestone and dolostone weathering under different treatments were similar. We will explain the results with carbonates instead of individual dolostone and limestone.~~ was used to determine the differences of weathering rate between limestone and dolostone.~~

4. Discussion

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~~**4.1 The carbonate rock tablet test: the validation of this experiment**~~

~~**The carbonate-rock-tablet test is used to determine the weathering rate of carbonate rock/mineral from laboratory to field (Gams, 1981; Chao et al., 2011; Trudgill, 1975; Chao et al., 2014; Dreybrodt et al., 1996; Gams, 1985; Jiang and Yuan, 1999; Liu and Dreybrod, 1997; Plan, 2005). In laboratory, the carbonate-rock-tablet is employed to study the kinetics of calcite dissolution/precipitation (Dreybrodt et al., 1996; Liu and Dreybrod, 1997) and determine the rate of carbonate mineral weathering in soil column (Chao et al., 2011). However, in field, it is also used to observe the rate of carbonate weathering and estimated CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering (Chao et al., 2014; Jiang and Yuan, 1999; Jiang et al., 2013; Plan, 2005). Although Liu (2011) argue that the carbonate-rock-tablet test may lead to the deviation of estimated CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale in the case of insufficient representative data (Liu, 2011), our results show that it is a preferred option for the condition controlled contrast or stimulated experiment (Chao et al., 2011; Chao et al., 2014), where the result from the carbonate-rock-tablet test is consistent to the major element geochemical data of leachates from soil column(Chao et al., 2011).**~~

~~**In this study, every procedure to establish soil column with carbonate rock tablets in the bottom of each was strictly same, including the size of column, the preparation and column filling of soil sample, the setting and test of carbonate rock tablets, etc. Moreover, three replicates of each treatment were designed. We**~~

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consider the experiment design can meet the objective of this study and the results of carbonate-rock-tablet test are therefore valid and credible.

4.1 The kinetics of carbonate dissolution/precipitation: controlling factors

Experimental studies of carbonate dissolution kinetics have shown metal carbonate weathering usually depends upon three parallel reactions occurring at the carbonate interface (Chou et al., 1989; Plummer et al., 1978; Pokrovsky et al., 2009):

$$MeCO_3 + H^+ \leftrightarrow Me^{2+} + HCO_3^- \quad (4)$$

$$MeCO_3 + H_2CO_3 \leftrightarrow Me^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \quad (5)$$

$$MeCO_3 \leftrightarrow Me^{2+} + CO_3^{2-} \quad (6)$$

where Me=Ca, Mg. As Eq. (5) describes, atmospheric/soil CO_2 is usually regard as the natural weathering agent of carbonate. In watersheds with calcite- and dolomite-containing bedrock, H_2CO_3 formed in the soil zone usually reacts with carbonate minerals, resulting in dissolved Ca, Mg, and HCO_3^- as described in Eq. (5)(Andrews and Schlesinger, 2001; Shin et al., 2014). Although it has been proven that the reaction of carbonate dissolution is mainly controlled by the amount of rainfall (Amiotte Suchet et al., 2003; Egli and Fitze, 2001; Kiefer, 1994), we consider that the effect of rainfall is equal in each soil column and hence unconsidered as a controlling factor in this study. The Eq. (4) suggests that the proton from other origins such as the nitrification processes of NH_4^+, as mentioned in introduction section, can play the role of weathering agent in agricultural areas. In this study, the urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ amendment increased (10 to 17-fold) the natural weathering rate of 2.00 g m^{-2} a^{-1} from limestone tablets in control treatment (table 2).

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Thus these increases are strongly relative to the effect of the proton released from the nitrification of NH_4^+. On the contrary, the carbonate precipitation will occur as due to the backward reaction of the Eq. (5) in following cases: (1) the degassing of dissolved CO_2, (2) soil evapotranspiration or (3) common ion effect: the increase of Ca^{2+}, Mg^{2+} or CO_3^{2-} in a weathering-system with equilibrium between water and calcite (Calmels et al., 2014; Dreybrodt, 1988).

4.2 The main reactions and effects in different treatments

The main reactions and effects of every treatment in this study were listed in Table 3.

(1) The nitrification in NH_4-fertilizer: NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea

In urea ($CO(NH_2)_2$) treatment, the enzyme urease rapidly hydrolyzes the urea-N ($CO(NH_2)_2$) to NH_4^+ ions (Eq. (7)) when urea is applied to the soil (Soares et al., 2012).

$$CO(NH_2)_2 + 3H_2O \rightarrow 2NH_4^+ + 2OH^- + CO_2 \quad (7)$$

Although the study from Singh et al showed that a part of NH_4^+ may be lost as ammonia (NH_3) and subsequently as nitrous oxide (N_2O) (Singh et al., 2013), yet the rest ammonium (NH_4^+) is mainly oxidized in soil by autotrophic bacteria (like Nitrosomonas) during nitrification, resulting in nitrite NO_2^- and H^+ ions. Nitrite is, in turn, oxidized by another bacterium, such as Nitrobacter, resulting in nitrate (NO_3^-) (Eq. (8)) (Perrin et al., 2008).

$$NH_4^+ + 2O_2 \rightarrow NO_3^- + H_2O + 2H^+ \quad (8)$$

The protons (H^+) produced by nitrification can be neutralized in two ways:

(i) either by exchange process with base cations in the soil exchange complex (Eq. (9))

$$Soil – Ca + 2H^{+} \rightarrow Soil – 2H^{+} + Ca^{2+} \quad (9)$$

(ii) or via carbonate mineral dissolution (Eq.(10))

$$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + H^{+} \rightarrow (1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (10)$$

Consequently, after Eq. (8) and Eq. (10) are combined, carbonate weathering by protons produced by nitrification is supposed to becomes (Eq. 11) (See details in Perrin et al., 2008 and Gandois et al., 2011).

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + NH_{4}^{+} + 2O_{2} \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_{3}^{-} + H_{2}O + 2HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (11)$$

As discussed above, provided that the loss as ammonia (NH_3) and nitrous oxide (N_2O) after hydrolyzation is unconsidered in this study, the final equation of carbonate weathering in NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea treatments will be followed as, respectively:

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + NH_{4}NO_{3} + 2O_{2} \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + 2NO_{3}^{-} + H_{2}O + 2HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (12)$$

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + NH_{4}HCO_{3} + 2O_{2} \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_{3}^{-} + H_{2}O + 3HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (13)$$

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + NH_{4}Cl + 2O_{2} \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_{3}^{-} + Cl^{-} + H_{2}O + 2HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (14)$$

$$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + (NH_{4})_{2}CO_{3} + 4O_{2} \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_{3}^{-} + 2H_{2}O + 4HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (15)$$

$$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_{x}CO_{3} + CO(NH_{2})_{2} + 4O_{2} \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_{3}^{-} + 4HCO_{3}^{-} \quad (16)$$

(2) No effect of NO_3-fertilizer treatment: $NaNO_3$ treatment

In $NaNO_3$ treatment, the reaction occurs as Eq. (17), indicating that the addition

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of NO_3-fertilizer does not significantly influence carbonate weathering.

$$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NaNO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow (1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + Na^{+} + NO_3^{-} + 2HCO_3^{-} \quad (17)$$

(3) The common ion effect: K_2CO_3 treatment

In K_2CO_3 treatment, CO_3^{2-} and HCO_3^{-} will produce according to Eq. (18) after adding K_2CO_3, hence resulting in carbonate precipitation described in Eq. (19) due to the common ion effect.

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$$K_2CO_3 + H_2O \rightarrow 2K^{+} + HCO_3^{-} + OH^{-} \quad (18)$$

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$$(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^{-} \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O \quad (19)$$

(4) Complex effects: Nitrification versus Inhibition effect of PO_4 in $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatments

For $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatment, the reaction of carbonate weathering will occur according to Eq. (11) due to the nitrification of NH_4^{+} ionized from $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ fertilizer will occur the nitrification. Whilst the PO_4^{3-} anion will exert an inhibition to calcite dissolution: calcium orthophosphate (Ca-P) precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of PO_4^{3-} in soil, resulting in inhibiting the dissolution of calcite.

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(5) Complex effects: Common ion effect versus Inhibition effect of PO_4 in $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ and Ca-Mg-P treatments

In $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$ and Ca-Mg-P treatments, on the one hand, the $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentrations of Ca^{2+} (or/and Mg^{2+}) increases as following Eq. (19). On the other hand, the inhibition effect of phosphate will cause that calcium phosphate precipitation produces on the surface of carbonate mineral after the

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addition of P in soil, correspondingly resulting in inhibiting the carbonate precipitation.

4.3 The difference between NH_4^+ and NO_3^- in impacts on carbonate weathering and the implication on the estimation of CO_2 consumption

In order to further compare the difference between NH_4^+ and NO_3^- effects on carbonate weathering, the initial molar amount of fertilizer-derived NH_4 per unit in every treatment were calculated and listed in Table 4. The results show that the amount of NH_4^+ hydrolyzed from urea is 1.06 mole, while NH_4^+ ionized from NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ is 0.54 mole, 1.08 mole, 1.07 mole, 1.06 mole and 0.03 mole, respectively (Table 3). The R*w* of limestone tablets and the initial amount of NH_4^+ are plotted in Fig. 4. A distinct relationship between them is observed: the R*w* in NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea treatments are bigger than in control treatment, where the initial amount of NH_4^+ displays similar results (Fig. 4). This suggests that carbonate weathering in NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea treatments are mainly attributed to the dissolution reaction described as Eq. (11). This process of carbonate weathering by protons from nitrification has been proven by many studies, from laboratory to field (Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Bertrand et al., 2007; Biasi et al., 2008; Chao et al., 2011; Errin et al., 2006; Gandois et al., 2011; Hamilton et al., 2007; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Perrin et al., 2008; Semhi and Suchet, 2000; West and McBride, 2005). We have noted that the R*w* values in NH_4HCO_3 and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ treatment are lower than even half of those in urea treatment in spite of adding the same amount of fertilizer-derived NH_4 (about 1.07 mole). This is probably because the two fertilizers, NH_4HCO_3 and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$, are easier to decompose and produce the NH_3 and CO_2 gases as following Eq. (20) and (21), resulting in the amount of fertilizer-derived NH_4

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of lower than 1.07 moles.

$$NH_4HCO_3 \rightarrow NH_3\uparrow + H_2O + CO_2\uparrow \quad (20)$$

$$(NH_4)_2CO_3 \rightarrow 2NH_3\uparrow + H_2O + CO_2\uparrow \quad (21)$$

The *Aw* and *Rw* in $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatment, unlike in other NH_4-fertlizer treatments, had not a significant increase comparing with control treatment, which is not only owing to the low amount of added NH_4^+ in $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatment (0.3 mole, see Table 4) but also more or less relative to the inhibition of phosphate (Chien et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2012). After the addition of $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ in soil, calcium orthophosphate (Ca-P) precipitation will form on calcite surface which is initiated with the aggregation of clusters leading to the nucleation and subsequent growth of Ca-P phases, at various pH values and ionic strengths relevant to soil solution conditions (Chien et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2012).

However, in Fig. 3, the *Rw* without significant difference with control treatment in $NaNO_3$ treatment indicates that the addition of NO_3-fertilizer does not significantly influence carbonate weathering.

A notable issue herein is that the $NaNO_3$ treatment produces the same amount of NO_3^- (1.07 mole) as other NH_4 fertilizer (NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea), but it fails to impact on carbonate weathering, which is raising a new problem. Eq. (5), usually as an expression for the natural weathering process of carbonate, is an important reaction for understanding the kinetics process of carbonate dissolution in carbonate-dominated areas, where the molar ratio of HCO_3^- and Me^{2+} in the river as an indicator is usually used to make estimations of CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale (Hagedorn and Cartwright, 2009; Li et al., 2009). At agricultural areas, the relationship between $(Ca+Mg)/HCO_3^-$ and NO_3^-

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is usually employed to estimate the contribution of N-fertilizer to riverine Ca^{2+}, Mg^{2+} and alkalinity (Etchanchu and Probst, 1988; Jiang, 2013; Jiang et al., 2009; Perrin et al., 2008; Semhi and Suchet, 2000). In these studies, the nitrification described as Eq. (8) is usually considered as the unique origin of NO_3^-. According to the result of $NaNO_3$ treatment in this study, the contribution of protons from nitrification to carbonate weathering may be overestimated if anthropogenic NO_3^- is neglected, since the anthropogenic NO_3^- does not release the proton described as Eq. (8). For NH_4NO_3 fertilizer, the (Eq. (12)) show that the two moles of Ca^{2+}+Mg^{2+}, NO_3^- and HCO_3^- will be produced when one mole NH_4NO_3 react with 2 moles of carbonate, where only half of NO_3^- originate from nitrification described as Eq. (8). This will result in a double overestimation on the contribution of the nitrification to carbonate weathering and thus mislead the estimation of CO_2 consumption therein.

At regional scales, If different fertilizers are added simultaneously to an agricultural area, the estimation of CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering might became more complicated, since the mole ratio of Ca+Mg, HCO_3^- and/or NO_3^- between different fertilization treatment is different (see Table 3). Thus, the related anthropogenic inputs (e.g. Ca+Mg, NH_4, NO_3^-, HCO_3^-, etc.) need to be investigated to more accurately estimate the impact of fertilization on carbonate weathering and its CO_2 consumption.

4.4 The comparison with other studied results

The R*w* and R*aw* of limestone in control treatment in this study is 0.48‰ and 2.00 g m^{-2} a^{-1}, which is consistent with the observations of 0.51-32.97 g m^{-2} a^{-1} (for R*aw*) in Nongla, Guangxi, a karst area of Southwestern China (Zhang, 2011) and the results of 0.05-5.06‰ (for R*w*) and 1.08-136.90 g m^{-2} a^{-1} (for R*aw*) from the north slope of the Hochschwab massif in Australia (Plan, 2005) using limestone tablet

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method. But the R*aw* of 2.00 g m^{-2} a^{-1} is lower than the results (7.0-63.5 g m^{-2} a^{-1} for R*aw*) from Jinfo Mountian in Chongqing of China (Zhang, 2011). These differences in carbonate weathering are mainly attributed to the different type of carbonate rock tablet, climate, micro-environment of soil, etc. The R*aw* of limestone in N-fertilizers treatment is 20.57-34.71 g m^{-2} a^{-1}, similar to the weathering rate of carbonate in Orchard (32.97 g m^{-2} a^{-1}) at Nongla, Manshan, Guangxi of China where usually involves in fertilization activities.

At larger scales like watershed, the weathering rate is usually estimated by using the riverine hydro-chemical method, which is inconsistent with the results from carbonate-rock-tablet test. The estimation of Zeng, et al. (2014) views that the carbon sink intensity calculated by carbonate rock tablet test is only one sixth of that estimated by using the riverine hydro-chemical method due to its own limits in methodology (Zeng et al., 2014). The results from Semhi, et al. (2000) shows the weathering rates of carbonate rock by using riverine hydro-chemical method are about 77.5 g m^{-2} a^{-1} and 50.4 g m^{-2} a^{-1} in upstream and downstream of the Garonne river, France, respectively, which are about 25-35 and 2-3 times than that in control treatment (2.00 g m^{-2} a^{-1} for natural weathering rate) and the N-fertilizer treatment (20.57-34.71 g m^{-2} a^{-1} for anthropic weathering rate) in this study. The global natural weathering rate of carbonate reported by Amiotte Suchet, et al. (2003) is 47.8 g m^{-2} a^{-1}, is much higher than that we observed. Thus, we conclude that it is difficult to compare between the results from the carbonate-rock-tablet test and the riverine hydro-chemical method. The carbonate-rock-tablet test is suitable for the research on the condition controlled contrast or stimulated experiment, while the riverine hydro-chemical method is appropriate for the regional investigation and estimation. According to the estimation from Yue et al. (2015), The enhanced HCO_3^- flux due to nitrification of NH_4^+ at Houzhai catchment of Guizhou province would be 3.72 $\times 10^5$ kg C/year and account for 18.7% of this flux in the entire catchment(Yue et al., 2015). This is similar to estimates from other small agricultural carbonate basins (12–26%) in Southwest France (Perrin et al., 2008; Semhi and Suchet, 2000).

5. Conclusion

The impact of the addition of different fertilizer (NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, $NaNO_3$, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$, $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$, $(NH_4)_3PO_4$, Ca-Mg-P, Urea and K_2CO_3) on carbonate weathering was studied in a field column experiment with carbonate rock tablets at its bottom of each. The weathering amount and ratio of carbonate rock tablets showed that the addition of urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ distinctly increased carbonate weathering, which was attributed to the nitrification of NH_4^+, and the addition of $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$, Ca-Mg-P and K_2CO_3 induced carbonate precipitation due to common ion effect. While the $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ and $NaNO_3$ addition did not impact significantly on carbonate weathering, where the former can be attributed to low added amount of $(NH4)_3PO_4$, may be related to the inhibition of phosphate, and the latter seemed to be raising a new question. The little impact of nitrate on carbonate weathering may result in the overestimation of impact of N-fertilizer on CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale if the effect of NO_3 and NH_4 are not distinguished. Thus, the related anthropogenic inputs (e.g. Ca+ Mg, NH_4, NO_3^-, HCO_3^-, etc.) need to be investigated to more accurately estimate the impact of fertilization on carbonate weathering and its CO_2 consumption. **4.2 The kinetics and controlled factors of carbonate weathering**

Experimental studies of carbonate dissolution kinetics have shown metal carbonate weathering usually depends upon three parallel reactions occurring at the carbonate interface (Chou et al., 1989; Plummer et al., 1978; Pokrovsky et al., 2009):

$$MeCO_3 + H^+ \rightarrow Me^{2+} + HCO_3^- \qquad (4)$$

$$MeCO_3 + H_2CO_3 \rightarrow Me^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \qquad (5)$$

$$MeCO_3 \rightarrow Me^{2+} + CO_3^{2-} \qquad (6)$$

where Me=Ca, Mg. As Eq. (5) describes, atmospheric/soil CO_2 is usually regard as the natural weathering agent of carbonate, whereas many studies have exposed that carbonate weathering can occur due to the reaction (Eq. (4)) between carbonate and the other proton contributors, as mentioned in introduction section: s which can originate from the nitrification processes of N-fertilizerH_4^+ (Semhi and Suchet, 2000; West and McBride, 2005; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Hamilton et al., 2007; Perrin et al., 2008; Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Pierson-wickmann et al., 2009; Chao et al., 2011; Gandois et al., 2011), from the sulfuric acid acid, (Lerman and Wu, 2006; Lerman et al., 2007; Li et al., 2008; Li et al., 2009), from organic acid secreted by microorganisms (Lian et al., 2008), as well and as from acidic soil (Chao et al., 2014)the role of .

In field, carbonate dissolution is mainly controlled by the amount of rainfall (Amiotte Suchet et al., 2003; Egli and Fitze, 2001; Kiefer, 1994), as well as impacted of soil CO_2 (Andrews and Schlesinger, 2001). We consider that the effect of rainfall on each soil column is same. In this study, the urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ amendment increased (10 to 17-fold) the natural weathering rate of 2.00 g m^{-2} a^{-1} from limestone tablets in control treatment (table 2). These increases may be,

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in the one hand, attributed to the effect of the proton released from the nitrification of NH_4^+. On the other hand, it may be, in theory, related to enhanced microbiogenic CO_2 due to nitrogenous nutrients stimulation (Eq(5)), because fertilizer application can increase soil CO_2 flux (Sainju et al., 2008; Bhattacharyya et al., 2013), the increased CO_2 can enhance carbonate dissolution rate at near neutral or alkali pH (Andrews and Schlesinger, 2001).

According to the added amount of different fertilization treatment, the molar amount of added nitrogen nutrient in $NaNO_3$ treatment is 1.07mol, much bigger than in NH_4NO_3, equivalent to NH_4HCO_3 and NH_4Cl treatment. However, the A*cw* and R*cw*, and R*acw* of $NaNO_3$ treatment is far less (Fig. 3 and table 2), inhibiting that the increases of carbonate weathering rate in urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ amendment have no distinct relationship with enhanced microbiogenic CO_2 due to nitrogenous fertilizer amendment.

4.3 The effect of nitrification of NH_4-fertilizer

In urea ($CO(NH_2)_2$) treatment, the enzyme urease rapidly hydrolyzes the urea-N ($CO(NH_2)_2$) to NH_4^+ ions (Eq. (7)) when urea is applied to the soil (Soares et al., 2012).

$$CO(NH_2)_2 + 3H_2O \longrightarrow 2NH_4^+ + 2OH^- + CO_2 \qquad (7)$$

Table 3 shows that the amount of NH_4^+ hydrolyzed from urea is 1.06 mol, while NH_4^+ ionized from NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ is 0.54 mol, 1.08 mol, 1.07 mol, 1.06 mol and 0.03 mol, respectively (Table 3). Although the study from Singh et al showed that a part of NH_4^+ may be lost as ammonia (NH_3) and

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subsequently as nitrous oxide (N_2O) (Singh et al., 2013), yet the rest ammonium (NH_4^+) is mainly oxidized in soil by autotrophic bacteria (like Nitrosomonas) during nitrification, resulting in nitrite NO_2^- and H^+ ions. Nitrite is, in turn, oxidized by another bacterium, such as Nitrobacter, resulting in nitrate (NO_3^-) (Eq. (8)) (Perrin et al., 2008).

$$NH_4^+ + 2O_2 \rightarrow NO_3^- + H_2O + 2H^+ \qquad (8)$$

The protons (H^+) produced by nitrification can be neutralized in two ways:

(i) either by exchange process with base cations in the soil exchange complex (Eq. (9))

$$Soil - Ca + 2H^+ \rightarrow Soil - 2H^+ + Ca^{2+} \qquad (9)$$

(ii) or via carbonate mineral dissolution (Eq.(10))

$$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + H^+ \rightarrow (1-x)\,Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + HCO_3^- \qquad (10)$$

Consequently, after Eq. (8) and Eq. (10) are combined, carbonate weathering by protons produced by nitrification is supposed to becomes (Eq. 11) (See details in Perrin et al., 2008 and Gandois et al., 2011).

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4^+ + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\,Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^- \qquad (11)$$

The *Rcw* of limestone tablets and the initial concentration of NH_4^+ are plotted in Fig. 4. A distinct relationship between them is observed: the *Acw* and *Rcw* in NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea treatments are bigger than in control treatment, where the initial concentration of NH_4^+ displays similar results (Fig. 4). This suggests that carbonate weathering in NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea treatments are mainly attributed to the dissolution reaction described as Eq. (11). This process of carbonate weathering by protons from nitrification has been proven by many studies, from laboratory to field (Semhi and Suchet, 2000; Bertrand et al., 2007; Oh and Raymond, 2006; Errin et al., 2006; Hamilton et al., 2007; Biasi et al., 2008; Perrin et al., 2008; Barnes and Raymond, 2009; Chao et al., 2011; West and McBride, 2005; Gandois et al., 2011). According to the estimation from Yue et al. (2015), The enhanced HCO_3^- flux due to nitrification of NH_4^+ at Houzhai catchment of Guizhou province would be 3.72 × 10^5 kg C/year and account for 18.7% of this flux in the entire catchment(Yue et al., 2015). This is similar to estimates from other small agricultural carbonate basins (12–26%) in Southwest France (Semhi and Suchet, 2000; Perrin et al., 2008).

As discussed above, provided that the loss as ammonia (NH_3) and nitrous oxide (N_2O) after hydrolyzation is unconsidered in this study, the final equation of carbonate weathering in NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ and urea treatments will be followed as, respectively:

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4NO_3 + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^- \quad (12)$$

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4HCO_3 + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + H_2O + 3HCO_3^- \quad (13)$$

$$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4Cl + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + Cl^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^- \quad (14)$$

$$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + (NH_4)_2CO_3 + 4O_2 \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 2H_2O + 4HCO_3^- \quad (15)$$

$$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO(NH_2)_2 + 4O_2 \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 4HCO_3^- \quad (16)$$

The A*cw* and R*cw* in $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatment, unlike in other NH_4-fertlizer treatments, had not a significant increase comparing with control treatment, which is not only owing to the low amount of added NH_4^+ in $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ treatment (0.3 mol, see Table 3) but also relative to the inhibition of phosphate. After the addition of $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ in soil, calcium orthophosphate (Ca-P) precipitation will form on calcite surface which is initiated with the aggregation of clusters leading to the nucleation and subsequent growth of Ca-P phases, at various pH values and ionic strengths relevant to soil solution conditions (Chien et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2012).

4.4 Little/no effect of NO_3-fertilizer on carbonate weathering and its implication to the evaluation of CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering

In Fig. 3, the A*cw* and R*cw* without significant difference with control treatment in $NaNO_3$ treatment indicates that the addition of NO_3-fertilizer does not significantly influence carbonate weathering. This result is raising a new problem.

Eq. (5), usually as an expression for the natural weathering process of carbonate, is an important reaction for understanding the kinetics process of carbonate dissolution in carbonate-dominated areas, where the molar ratio of HCO_3^- and Me^{2+} in the river as an indicator is usually used to make estimations of CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale (Hagedorn and Cartwright, 2009; Li et al., 2009). At agricultural areas, the relationship between $(Ca+Mg)/HCO_3^-$ and NO_3^- is usually employed to estimate the contribution of N-fertilizer to riverine Ca^{2+}, Mg^{2+} and alkalinity (Etchanchu and Probst, 1988; Jiang, 2013; Jiang et al., 2009; Perrin et al., 2008; Semhi and Suchet, 2000). In these studies, the nitrification described as Eq. (8) is usually considered as the unique origin of NO_3^-. According to the result of $NaNO_3$ treatment in this study, the contribution of protons from nitrification to carbonate weathering may be overestimated if anthropogenic NO_3^- is neglected, since the anthropogenic NO_3^- does not release the proton described as Eq. (8). For NH_4NO_3 fertilizer, the (Eq. (12)) show that the two moles of Ca^{2+}+Mg^{2+}, NO_3^- and HCO_3^- will be produced when one mole NH_4NO_3 react with 2 moles of carbonate, where only half of NO_3^- originate from nitrification described as Eq. (8). This will result in doubled overestimation on the true contribution of the nitrification to CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering.

At regional scales, If different fertilizers are added to an agricultural area, the estimation of CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering might became more complicated, since the mole ratio of Ca+Mg, HCO_3^- and/or NO_3^- between different fertilization treatment is different (see Eq. (8)-(12)). Thus, the related anthropogenic inputs (e.g. Ca+Mg, NH_4, NO_3^-, HCO_3^-, etc.) need to be investigated to more accurately estimate the impact of fertilization on carbonate weathering and its CO_2 consumption. Moreover, the statement that nitrogenous fertilizer can aid carbonate weathering may result in misunderstanding more or less, it should not be nitrogenous fertilizer but, rather, ammonium fertilizer.

5. Conclusion

The impact of the addition of different fertilizer (NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, $NaNO_3$, NH_4Cl, $(NH_4)_2CO_3$, $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$, $(NH_4)_3PO_4$, Ca-Mg-P, Urea and K_2CO_3) on carbonate weathering was studied in a field column experiment with carbonate rock tablets at its bottom of each. The weathering amount and ratio of carbonate rock tablets showed that the addition of urea, NH_4NO_3, NH_4HCO_3, NH_4Cl and $(NH_4)_2CO_3$ distinctly increased carbonate weathering, which was attributed to the nitrification of NH_4^+, and the addition of $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$, Ca-Mg-P and K_2CO_3 induced carbonate precipitation due to common ion effect. While the $(NH_4)_3PO_4$ and $NaNO_3$ addition did not impact significantly on carbonate weathering, where the former can be attributed to low added amount of $(NH4)_3PO_4$, may be related to the inhibition of phosphate, and the latter seemed to be raising a new question. The little impact of nitrate on carbonate weathering may result in the overestimation of impact of N-fertilizer on CO_2 consumption by carbonate weathering at the regional/global scale if the effect of NO_3 and NH_4 are not distinguished. Thus, the related anthropogenic inputs (e.g. Ca+ Mg, NH_4, NO_3^-, HCO_3^-, etc.) need to be investigated to more accurately estimate the impact of fertilization on carbonate weathering and its CO_2 consumption. Moreover, in order to avoid misunderstanding more or less, the statement that nitrogenous fertilizer can aid carbonate weathering should be replaced by ammonium fertilizer.

6. Acknowledgements

This study is supported jointly by the Basic Science Research Fund from the Institute of Hydrogeology and Environmental Geology (Grant No. SK201208), the Chinese National Natural Science Foundation (No. 41403107 and No. 41325010), and the China Geological Survey Projects (No. 12120113005900).

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Table 1 Chemical composition of soil

Parameter	Unit	Values
pH	-	6.94
Content of particle (<0.01mm)	%	74
Content of particle (<0.001mm)	%	45
Organic matter	%	0.99
NH_4^+-N	mg/kg	339.87
NO_3^--N	mg/kg	569.05
Available P	mg/kg	8.18
Available K	mg/kg	56.88
Available Ca	mg/kg	3041.06
Available Mg	mg/kg	564.83
Available S	mg/kg	100.72
Available Fe	mg/kg	24.41

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Table 2 Carbonate weathering under different fertilizer treatments

Treatment	Limestone		Dolostone	
	~~Acw~~ Rw /‰~~g~~	Raw / g m^{-2} a^{-1} ~~Rcw /‰~~	~~Acw~~ Rw /‰~~g~~	Raw /g m^{-2} a^{-1} ~~Rcw /‰~~
Control	0.~~0014~~48±0.14a	2.00±0.58a~~0.48~~	-0.~~0011~~31±0.09a	-1.57±0.86a~~-0.31~~
NH_4NO_3	~~0.0174~~6.42±0.28c	24.86±2.01b ~~6.42~~	~~0.0144~~5.30±0.87c	20.57±1.15b~~5.30~~
NH_4HCO_3	~~0.0147~~4.44±0.81b	21.00±3.45b ~~4.44~~	~~0.0096~~3.22±0.87b	13.71±3.88b~~3.22~~
$NaNO_3$	~~0.0031~~0.86±0.17a	4.43±1.73a~~0.86~~	0.~~0022~~53±0.26a	3.14±1.73a~~0.53~~
NH_4Cl	~~0.0149~~5.54±0.64bc	21.29±2.45b ~~5.54~~	~~0.0131~~4.77±0.78bc	18.71±0.86b ~~4.77~~
$(NH_4)_2CO_3$	~~0.0144~~4.48±0.95bc	20.57±4.46b ~~4.84~~	~~0.0186~~4.94±1.91bc	26.57±7.62b~~4.94~~
$Ca_3(PO_4)_2$	~~0.0003~~0.01±0.04a	0.43±0.86a~~0.01~~	-0.~~0013~~55±0.25a	-1.86±1.29a~~-0.55~~
$(NH_4)_3PO_4$	~~0.0028~~1.08±0.34a	4.00±1.15a~~1.08~~	~~0.0007~~0.75±0.21a	1.00±1.01a~~0.75~~
Ca-Mg-P	~~-0.0013~~-0.31±0.12a	-1.86±0.43a~~-0.31~~	-0.~~0022~~97±0.38a	-3.14±0.72a~~-0.97~~
Urea	~~0.0243~~8.48±0.96d	34.71±4.32c ~~8.48~~	~~0.0185~~6.59±0.67d	26.43±2.73c~~6.59~~
K_2CO_3	-0.~~0008~~26±0.15a	-1.14±0.58a~~-0.26~~	-0.~~0018~~59±0.15a	-2.57±0.43a~~-0.59~~

~~Acw - the amount of carbonate weathering;~~ R~~c~~w - the ratio of carbonate weathering; Ra~~c~~w - the rate of carbonate weathering; ~~Acw~~ Rw =1000 (W*i*-W*f*)/Wi; ~~Rcw = (Wi-Wf)/Wi,~~ Ra~~c~~w = (W*i*-W*f*)/(S*T), where W*i* is the initial weight of the carbonate rock tablets, and W*f* is their final weight. S is the surface area of carbonate weathering tablets, and T is the experiment period. Values are reported as means± standard deviations, n=3. Values in each column followed by different letters are significantly (p <0.05) different based on one-way ANOVA.

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Table 3: The main reaction and effects in fertilized treatments, and the potential nitrogenous transformation (The amount of generated NH_4^+-NO_3^-) at the initial phase of the experiment

Treatment	Main reactions and effects
1.Control	$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow (1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^-$
2.NH_4NO_3	$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4NO_3 + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^-$
3. H_4HCO_3	$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4HCO_3 + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + H_2O + 3HCO_3^-$
4. $NaNO_3$	$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NaNO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow (1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + Na^+ + NO_3^- + 2HCO_3^-$
5. NH_4Cl	$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4Cl + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + Cl^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^-$
6. $(NH_4)_2CO_3$	$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + (NH_4)_2CO_3 + 4O_2 \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 2H_2O + 4HCO_3^-$
7. $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$	(1) Common ion effect: The $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentrations of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} increases $(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$ (2) Inhibition of phosphate to calcite precipitation: calcium phosphate precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of PO_4^{3-} in soil, resulting in inhibiting the precipitation of calcite
8. $(NH_4)_2PO_4$	(1) $2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4^+ + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^-$ (2) Inhibition of phosphate to calcite dissolution: calcium orthophosphate (Ca-P) precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of PO_4^{3-} in soil, resulting in inhibiting the dissolution of calcite
9. Ca-Mg-P	(1) Common ion effect: The $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentrations of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} increases $(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$ (2) Inhibition of phosphate to calcite precipitation: calcium phosphate precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of P in soil, resulting in inhibiting the precipitation of calcite
10. Urea	$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO(NH_2)_2 + 4O_2 \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 4HCO_3^-$
11. K_2CO_3	Common ion effect: The $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentration of HCO_3^- increases (i) $(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$ (ii) $K_2CO_3 + H_2O \rightarrow 2K^+ + HCO_3^- + OH^-$

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Table 3: The main reaction and effects in these fertilized treatments

Treatment	Main reactions and effects
1. Control	$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow (1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^-$
2. NH_4NO_3	$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4NO_3 + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^-$
3. NH_4HCO_3	$NH_4HCO_3 \rightarrow NH_3\uparrow + H_2O + CO_2\uparrow$ $2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4HCO_3 + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + H_2O + 3HCO_3^-$
4. $NaNO_3$	$Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NaNO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O \rightarrow (1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + Na^+ + NO_3^- + 2HCO_3^-$
5. NH_4Cl	$2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4Cl + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + Cl^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^-$
6. $(NH_4)_2CO_3$	$(NH_4)_2CO_3 \rightarrow 2NH_3\uparrow + H_2O + CO_2\uparrow$ $3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + (NH_4)_2CO_3 + 4O_2 \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 2H_2O + 4HCO_3^-$
7. $Ca_3(PO_4)_2$	(1) Common ion effect: The $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentrations of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} increases $(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$ (2) Inhibition of phosphate to calcite precipitation: calcium phosphate precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of PO_4^{3-} in soil, resulting in inhibiting the precipitation of calcite
8. $(NH_4)_3PO_4$	(1) $2Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + NH_4^+ + 2O_2 \rightarrow 2(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 2xMg^{2+} + NO_3^- + H_2O + 2HCO_3^-$ (2) Inhibition of phosphate to calcite dissolution: calcium orthophosphate (Ca-P) precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of PO_4^{3-} in soil, resulting in inhibiting the

	dissolution of calcite
9. Ca-Mg-P	(1) Common ion effect: The $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentrations of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} increases $(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$ (2) Inhibition of phosphate to calcite precipitation: calcium phosphate precipitation produces on the surface of calcite after the addition of P in soil, resulting in inhibiting the precipitation of calcite
10. Urea	$3Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO(NH_2)_2 + 4O_2 \rightarrow 3(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + 3xMg^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 4HCO_3^-$
11. K_2CO_3	Common ion effect: The $Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3$ produces when the concentration of HCO_3^- increases (i) $(1-x)\ Ca^{2+} + xMg^{2+} + 2HCO_3^- \rightarrow Ca_{(1-x)}Mg_xCO_3 + CO_2 + H_2O$ (ii) $K_2CO_3 + H_2O \rightarrow 2K^+ + HCO_3^- + OH^-$

Table 4: The amount of fertilizer-derived NH_4^+ at the initial phase of the experiment and the potential nitrogenous transformation (NH_4^+-NO_3^-)

Treatment	Molecular mass g/mol	Amount of added fertilizer /g	Molar amount /mole	amount of fertilizer-derived NH_4^+ /mole	The maximum of N products /mole
NH_4NO_3	80	43	0.54	0.54	1.08
NH_4HCO_3	79	85	1.08	1.08	1.08
$NaNO_3$	85	91	1.07	0.00	1.07
NH_4Cl	53.5	57	1.07	1.07	1.07
$(NH_4)_2CO_3$	96	51	0.53	1.06	1.06
$Ca_3(PO_4)_2$	310	52	0.17	0.00	0.00
$(NH_4)_3PO_4$	149	15	0.10	0.30	0.30
Ca-Mg-P	/	44	0.00	0.00	0.00
Urea	60	32	0.53	1.06	1.06
K_2CO_3	138	10	0.07	0.00	0.00

~~Gadf- gram amount of added fertilizers (g); Maafof added fertilizers (mol).~~

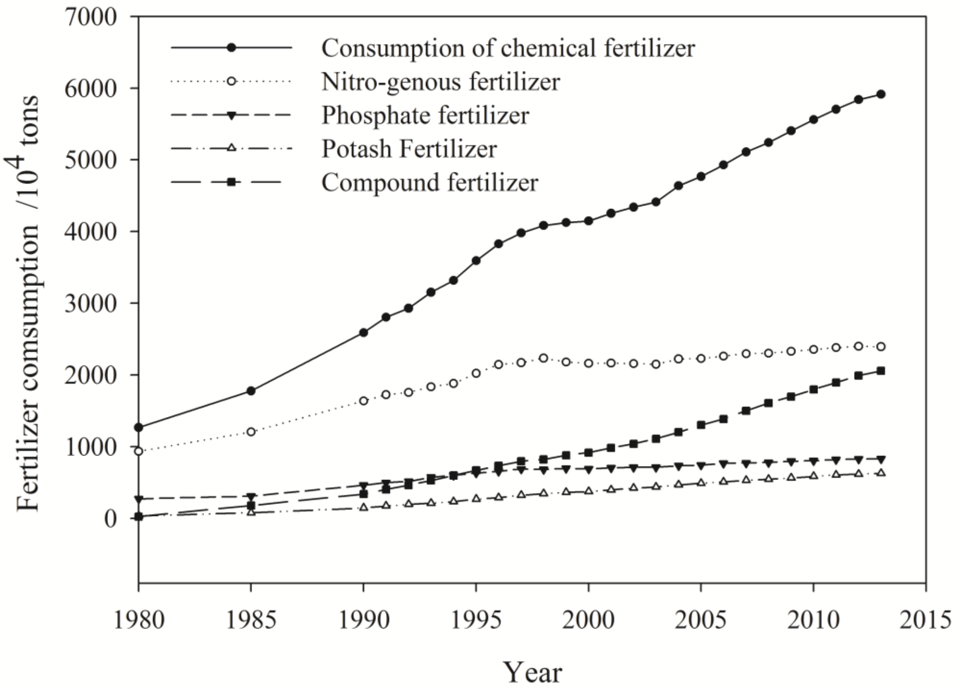

Fig. 1 The change of chemical fertilizer consumption in China during 1980-2013

The data were collected from National Bureau of Statistics of the People's Republic of China (NBS, 2014)~~(NBS, 2014)~~ (http://www.stats.gov.cn/tjsj/ndsj/)

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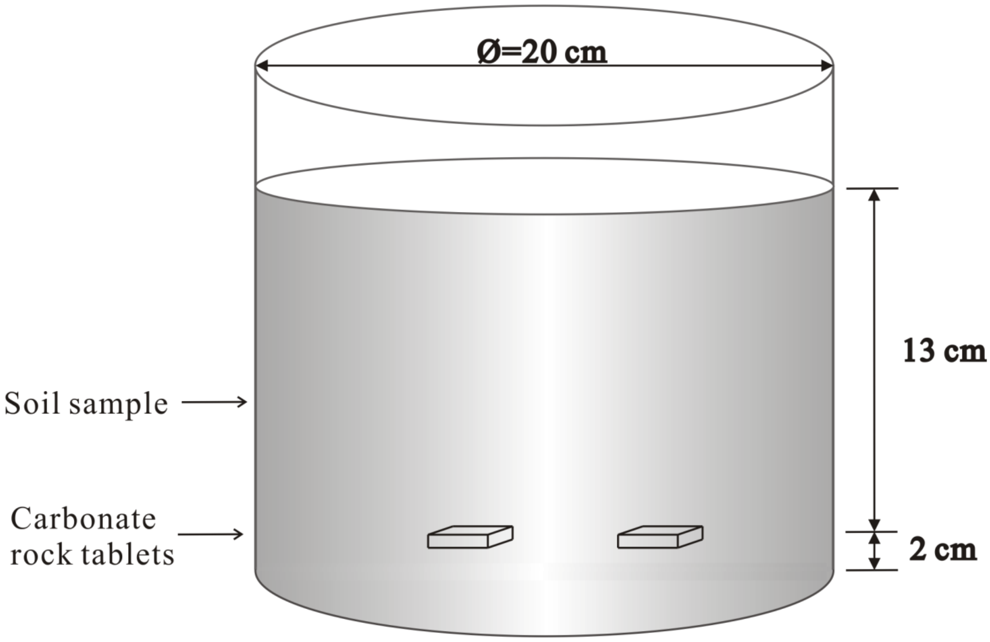
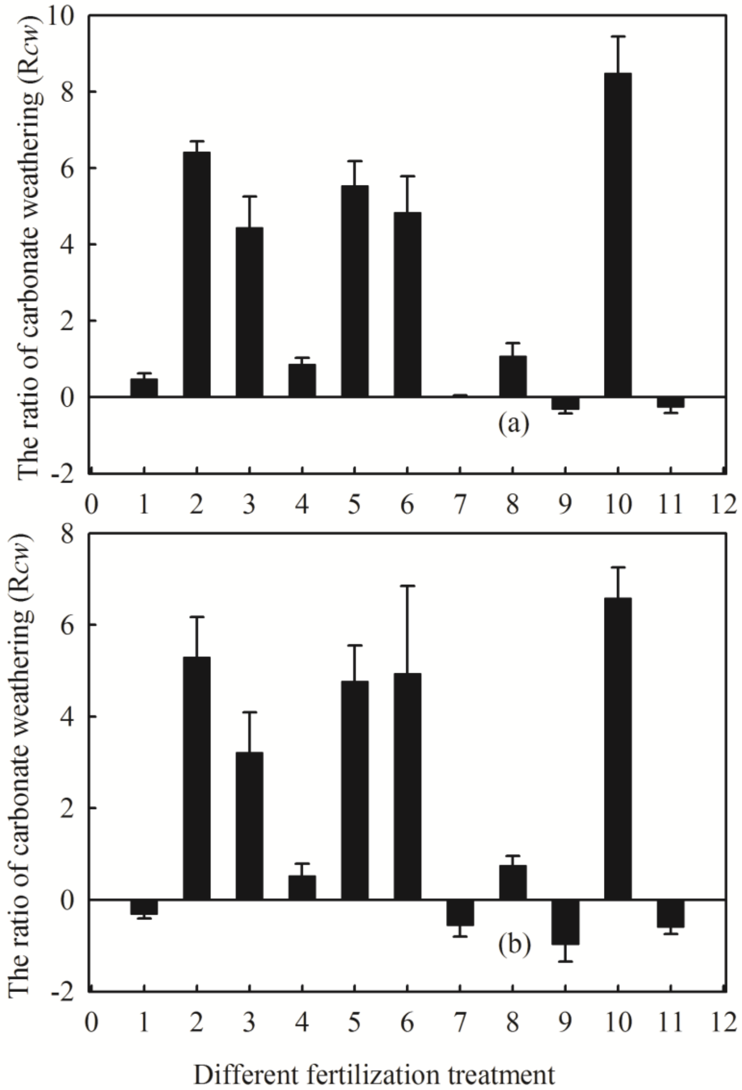


Fig. 2 Sketch map of the soil column

1121 
The ratio of carbonate weathering (Rcw)
10
8
6
4
2
0
-2
(a)
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
The ratio of carbonate weathering (Rcw)
8
6
4
2
0
-2
(b)
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Different fertilization treatment

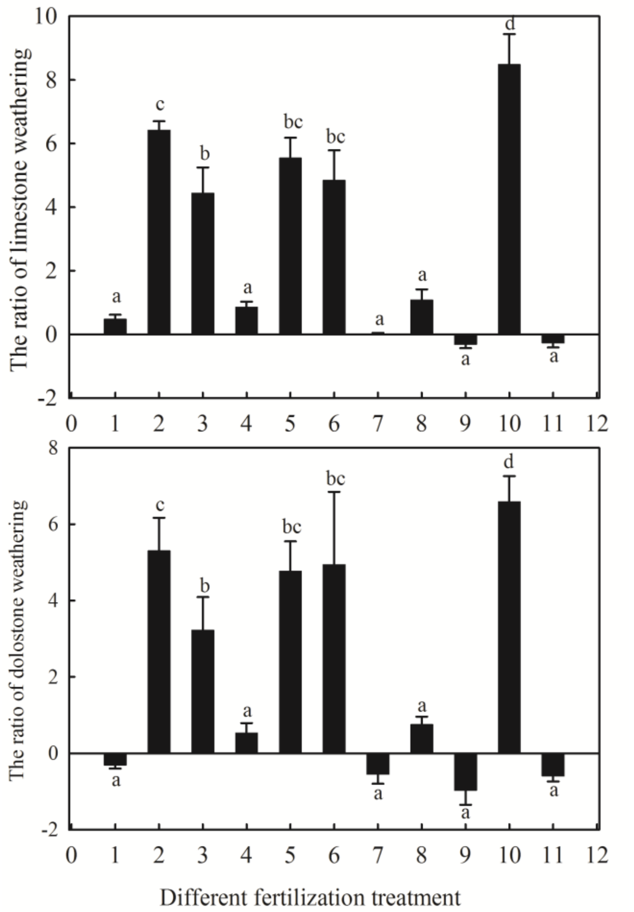


Fig. 3 The ratio of carbonate weatheringR*w* (‰) of limestone and dolostone –under different fertilization treatment

(a) limestone; (b) dolostone. Treatment 1-Control; 2-NH_4NO_3; 3-NH_4HCO_3; 4-$NaNO_3$; 5-NH_4Cl; 6-$(NH_4)_2CO_3$; 7-$Ca_3(PO_4)_2$; 8-$(NH_4)_3PO_4$; 9-Ca-Mg-P; 10-Urea; 11-K_2CO_3. R*cw* =1000(W*i*-W*f*)/W*i*, where W*i* is the initial weight of the carbonate rock tablets, and W*f* is their final weight. Different letters on each column are significantly (p <0.05) different based on one-way ANOVA.Values in each column followed by different letters are significantly (p <0.05) different based on one-way ANOVA.

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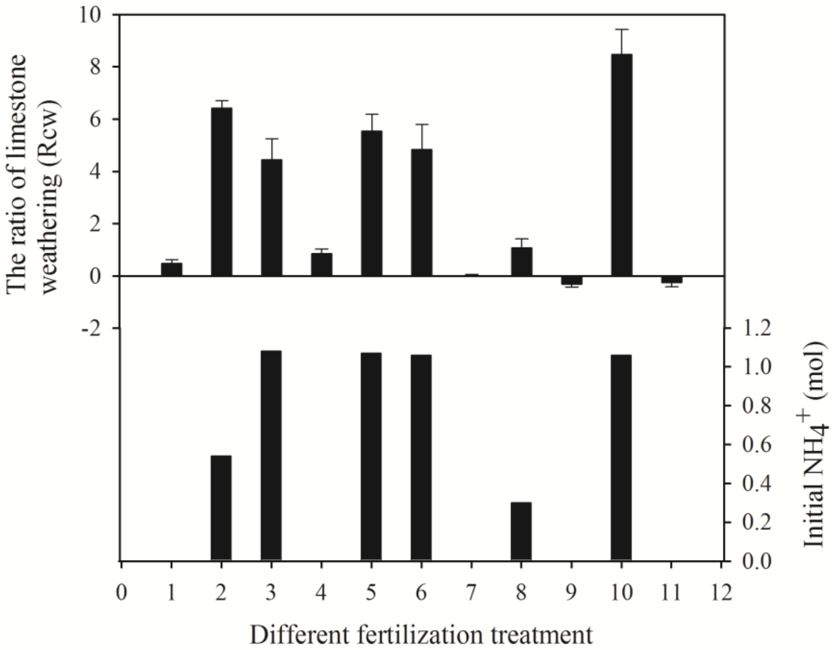
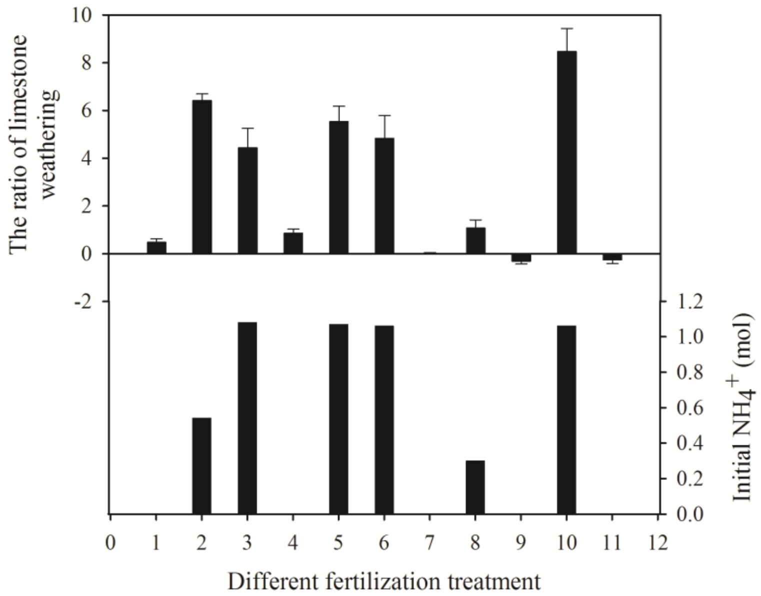

The ratio of limestone weathering (Rcw)
10
8
6
4
2
0
-2
Initial NH4+ (mol)
1.2
1.0
0.8
0.6
0.4
0.2
0.0
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
Different fertilization treatment



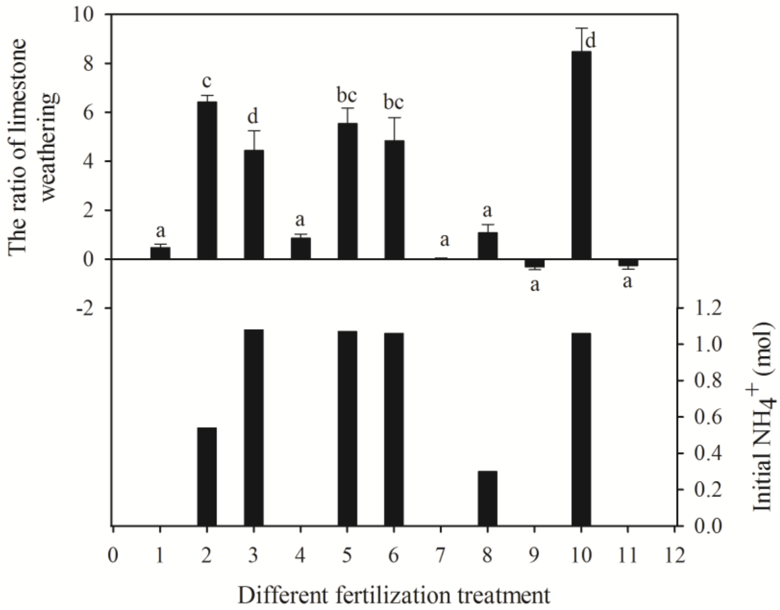


Fig. 4 The R*w* (‰) of limestone ~~ratio of limestone weathering~~ and the molar amount of produced NH_4^+ under different fertilization treatment

Treatment 1-Control; 2-NH_4NO_3; 3-NH_4HCO_3; 4-$NaNO_3$; 5-NH_4Cl; 6-$(NH_4)_2CO_3$; 7-$Ca_3(PO_4)_2$; 8-$(NH_4)_3PO_4$; 9-Ca-Mg-P; 10-Urea; 11-K_2CO_3. R~~c~~*w* =1000(W*i*-W*f*)/W*i*, where W*i* is the initial weight of limsestone tablets, and W*f* is their final weight. Different letters on each column are significantly ($p<0.05$) different based on one-way ANOVA.

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