Cryptic Anaerobic Oxidation of Methane (CAMO):

Miller et al. 2014. Methane oxidation linked to chlorite dismutation. Frontiers Microbiol. 5: 1 – 8.

 CIO_4^- and CIO_3^- could link to aerobic CH_4 oxidation by biochemical release of O_2 :

 $CIO_{2}^{-} \rightarrow CI^{-} + O_{2} \qquad (-135 \text{ kJ/mol } CIO_{2}^{-})$ $CH_{4} + 2O_{2} \rightarrow CO_{2} + 2H_{2}O \quad (-842\text{ kJ/mol} CH_{4})$

Net: $CH_4+2CIO_2^- \rightarrow CO_2 + 2CI^- + 2H_2O(-1114kJ/mol CH_4)$

Ettwig et al. 2012. Nature. 464: 543 – 548. Methylomirabilis oxyfera



Time course of reaction of *D. agitata* CKB With 10mM perchlorate(A), chlorate (B), or chlorite (C) showing consumption of added substrate(open)and production of chloride (closed).



Time course of *D.agitata* CKB following addition of 10mM perchlorate (A), chlorate (B), or chlorite (C): Production of O_2 (diamonds) and CO_2 (circles), With (solid) or without (open) 5mM acetate



Methane uptake bymixed culturesof *D.agitata* CKB with *M. capsulatus* Bath (A) or *M. album* BG8 (B) During anaerobic or aerobic incubations. Cultures in were co-mingled and provided with 5mM chlorite (open squares).Aerobic controls (solid diamonds). Methane uptake by Searsville Lake sediment slurries pre-adapted to reduce perchlorate with acetate.



Methane oxidation by Searsville Lake soils during anaerobic incubations with segregated *D.agitata* CKB following additions of perchlorate, chlorate, or chlorite.



Martian Radiotracer Experiments??

 36 Cl-perchlorate + CH₄ \longrightarrow 36 Cl-chloride

Chlorine-36 is an <u>isotope of chlorine</u>. <u>Chlorine</u> has two <u>stable isotopes</u> and one <u>radioactive</u> isotope: the cosmogenic isotope ³⁶Cl. Its halflife is **301,000 ± 2,000** years. ³⁶Cl decays primarily (98%) by beta-minus decay to ³⁶Ar, and the balance to ³⁶S. Cost to make ³⁶Cl-perchlorate = **\$60,000** for only **50 µCi** \times 3 = **\$180,000** HPLC-with in line flow-thru beta radiation detector (Ramona) = ~ **\$100,000** Radwaste disposal is **COSTLY**

Impractical!

Future Research Paths (more practical):

- 1. Experiments with Methylomonas denitrificans (L. Stein)
- 2. Experiments with Mono Lake playas
- 3. Experiments with Methyl chloride