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FORMATION KINETICS AND PHASE EQUILIBRIUM OF CO₂ HYDRATES UNDER MARINE SEDIMENT ENVIRONMENT FOR OFFSHORE CO₂ SEQUESTRATION

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Gas hydrates are nonstoichiometric crystalline guest-host structures in which gas molecules (e.g., CO^2 , CH_4 , and N_2O) are trapped inside hydrogen-bonded water cages under high pressure and low temperature environment. Massive amount of CO_2 (150~180 m³) could be entrapped in 1 m₃ of CO_2 hydrate structure. Moreover, formation of CO_2 hydrates in marine sediments during offshore CO_2 storage could prevent buoyant CO^2 leakage due to the formation of a hydrate cap. Understanding of formation kinetics and phase equilibrium of CO_2 hydrates is significant because they are directly related to CO_2 trapping speed in hydrate structure and stability of stored CO_2 , respectively. Therefore, in this study, we investigated the formation kinetics and phase equilibrium of CO_2 hydrate under the marine environmental conditions for potential application of CO_2 hydrates for offshore CO_2 sequestration.

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