

# Simulation of CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM and Influences on Coal Structure of CO<sub>2</sub> Storage

## CO<sub>2</sub>—ECBM模拟及CO<sub>2</sub>储存对煤结构影响

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# Outline

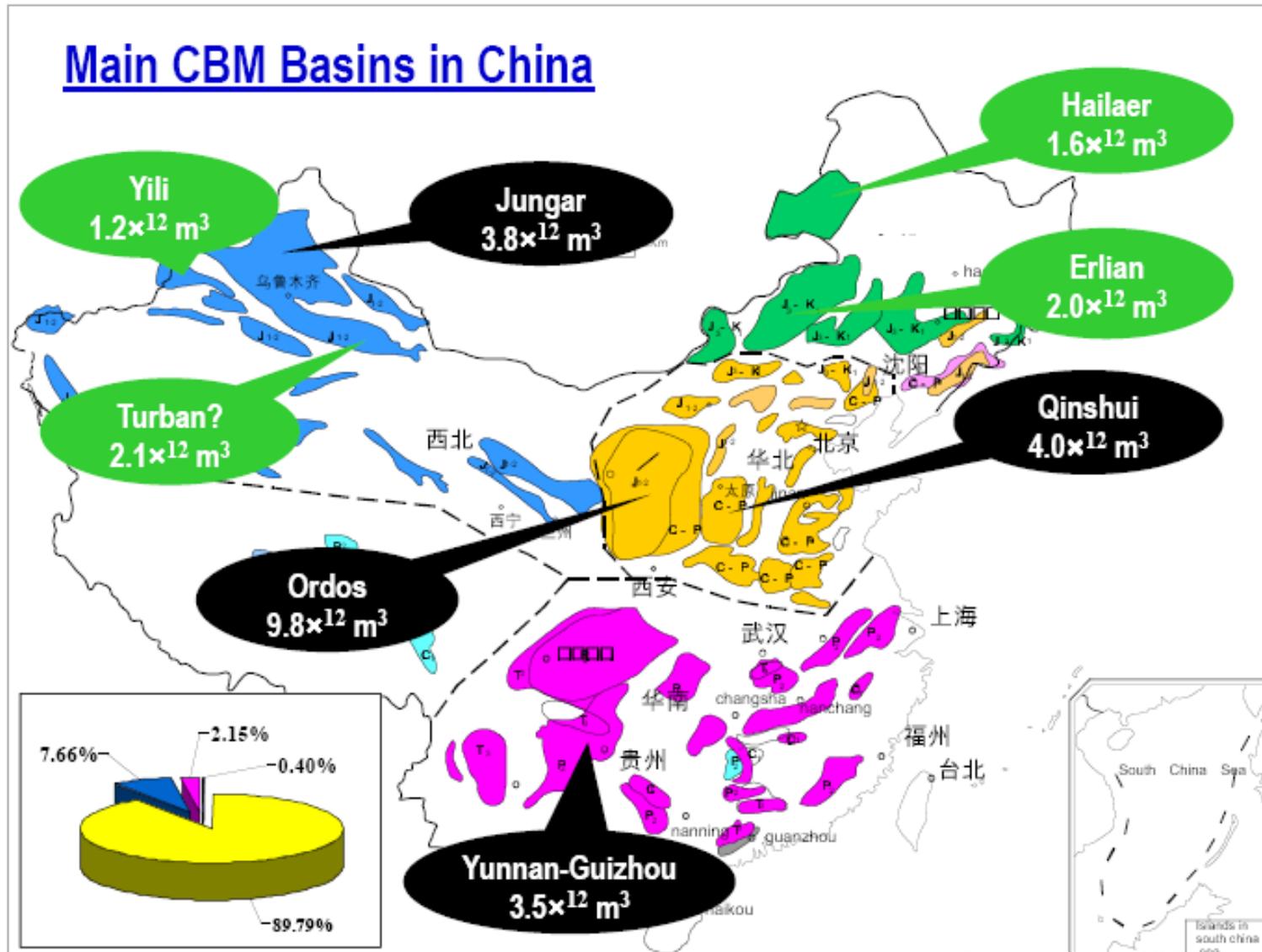
- 1 CO<sub>2</sub> Storage and ECBM**
- 2 Modeling and Numerical simulation of CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM**
- 3 Influences on Coal Structure of CO<sub>2</sub> Storage**
- 4 Conclusions and Puzzles**



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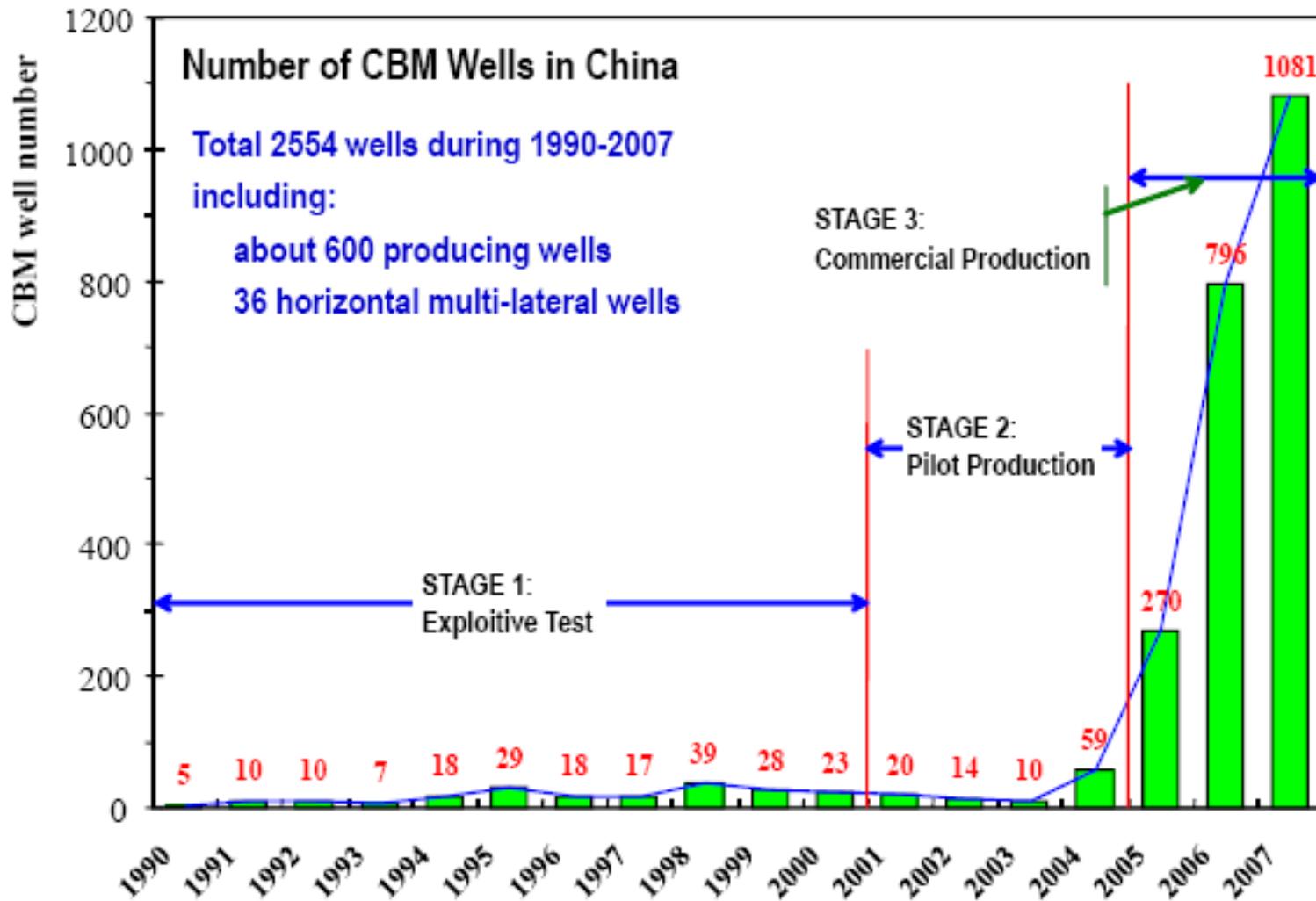
# 1. CO<sub>2</sub> Storage and ECBM



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## ■ CBM exploration & mining



(Yong Qin, 2008)

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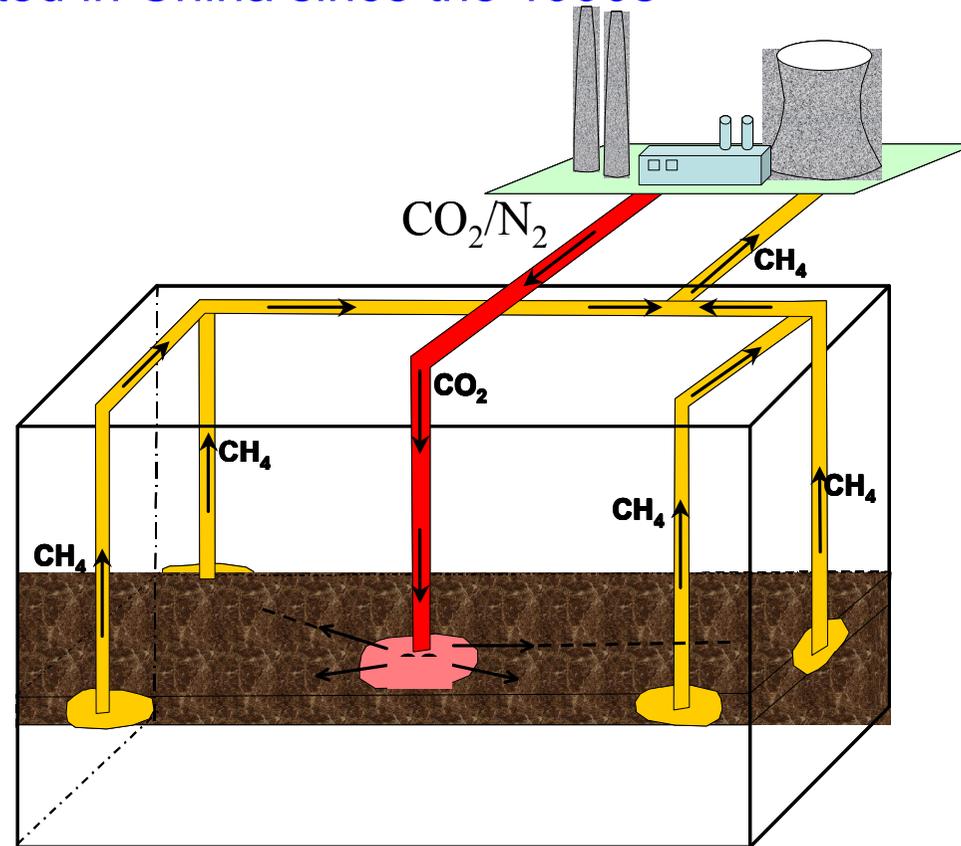
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# CO<sub>2</sub> ECBM/ CCS

Injection of CO<sub>2</sub> into deep coal seams is one of the potential approaches for enhancing coalbed methane (CBM) Recovery and CO<sub>2</sub> storage. The feasibility of this technology has been investigated in China since the 1990s

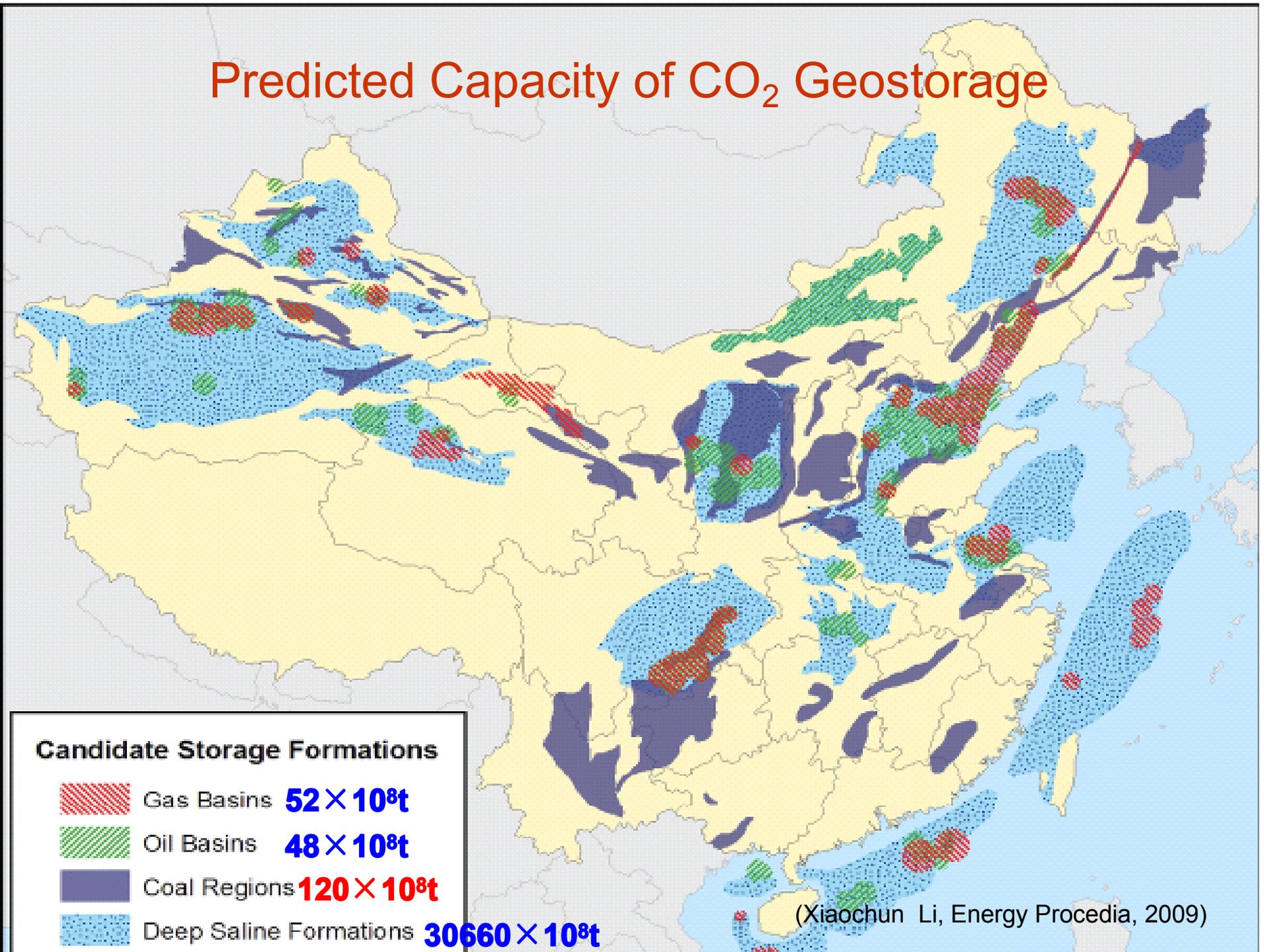


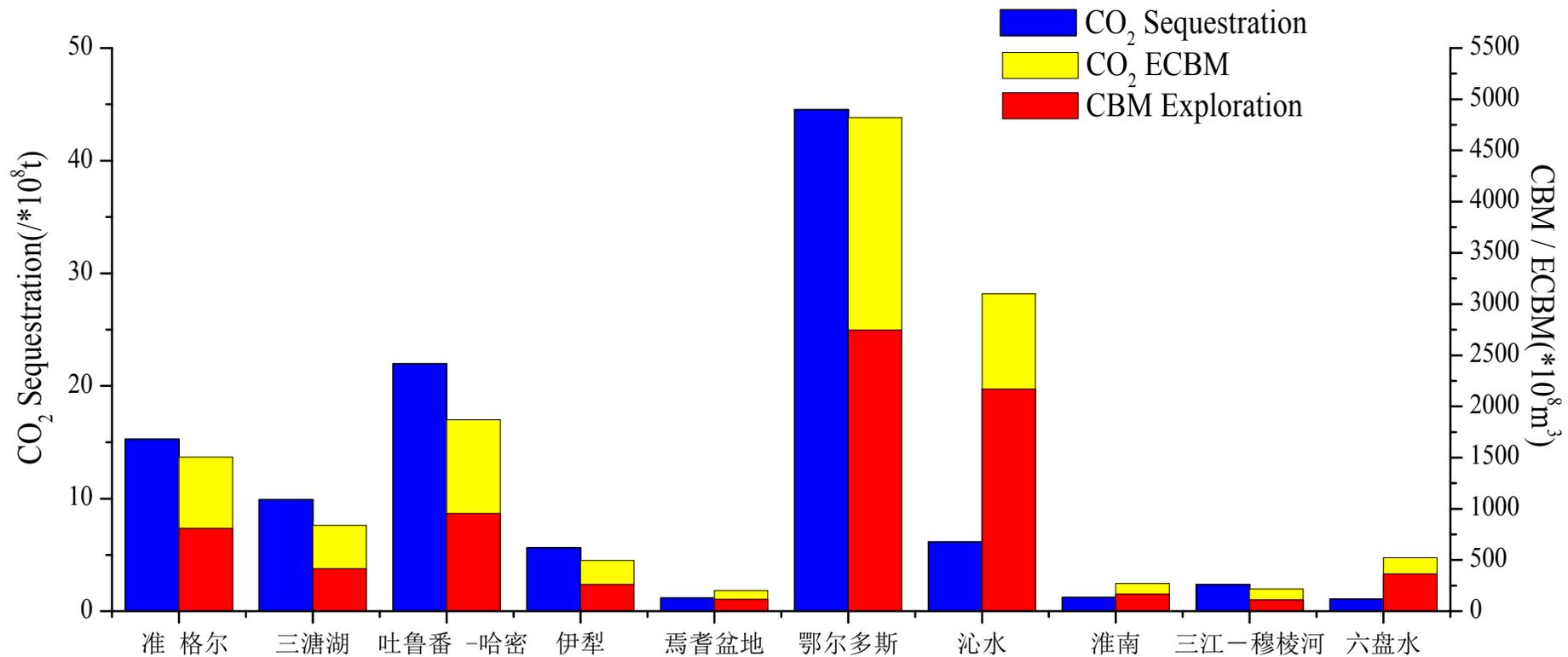
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# Predicted Capacity of CO<sub>2</sub> Geostorage





(Yanfeng Liu, 2005)

- ✓ About 98% of CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM is allocated in northern part of China.
- ✓ CO<sub>2</sub> Storage in unmineable coal seams of Ordos, Turpan-Hami and Junggar basins accounts for 65.49% of national storage.

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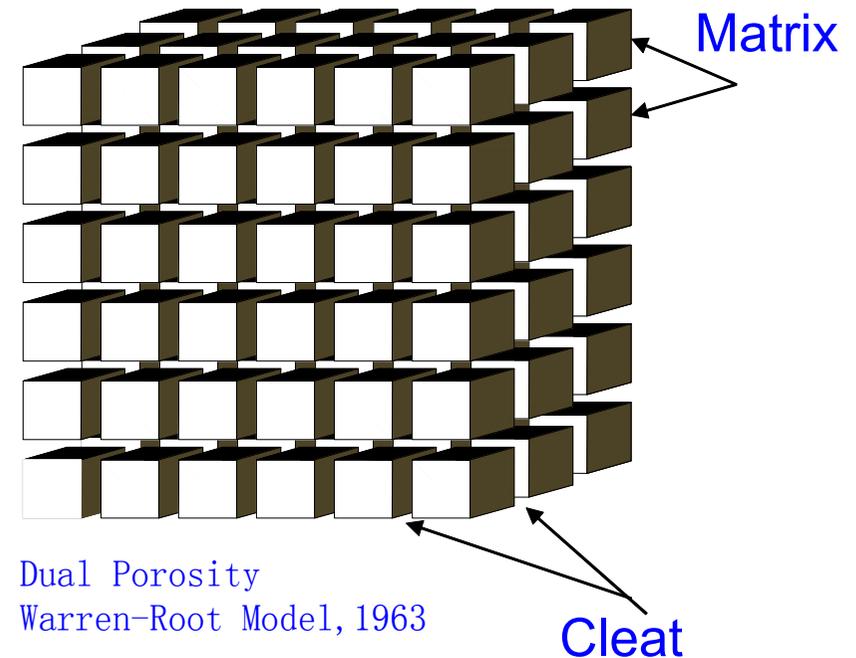
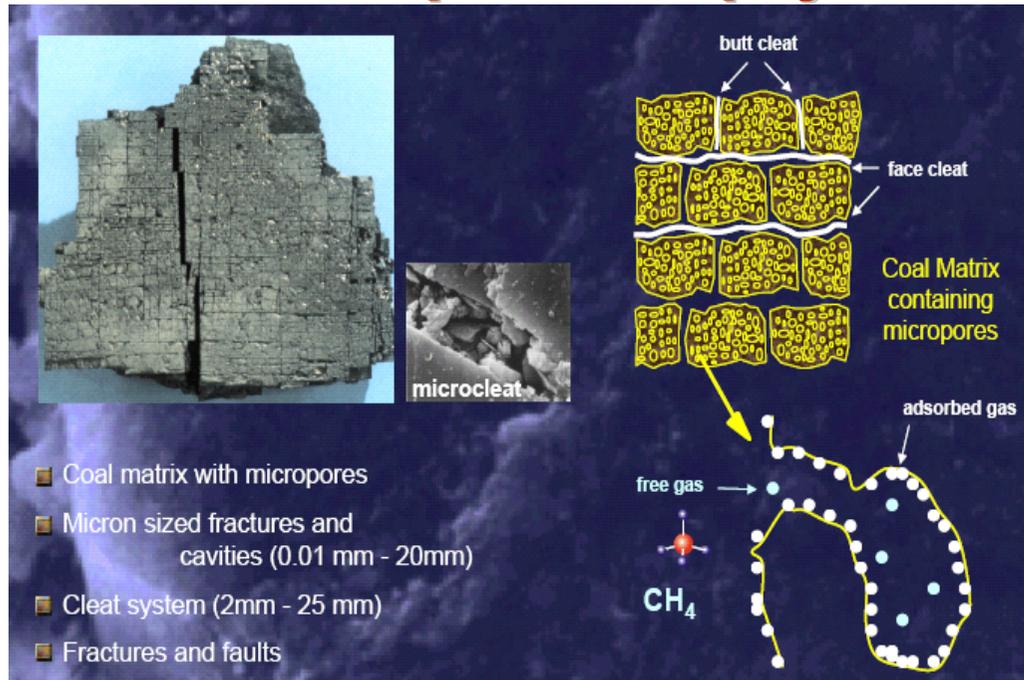


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## 2. Modeling and Numerical simulation of CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM

### Coupled Multiphysics of CO<sub>2</sub> ECBM



Gas transport and storage in the coal

- ➡ Flow through the cleat network
- ➡ Diffusion through the micropores
- ➡ Adsorption onto the internal coal surface

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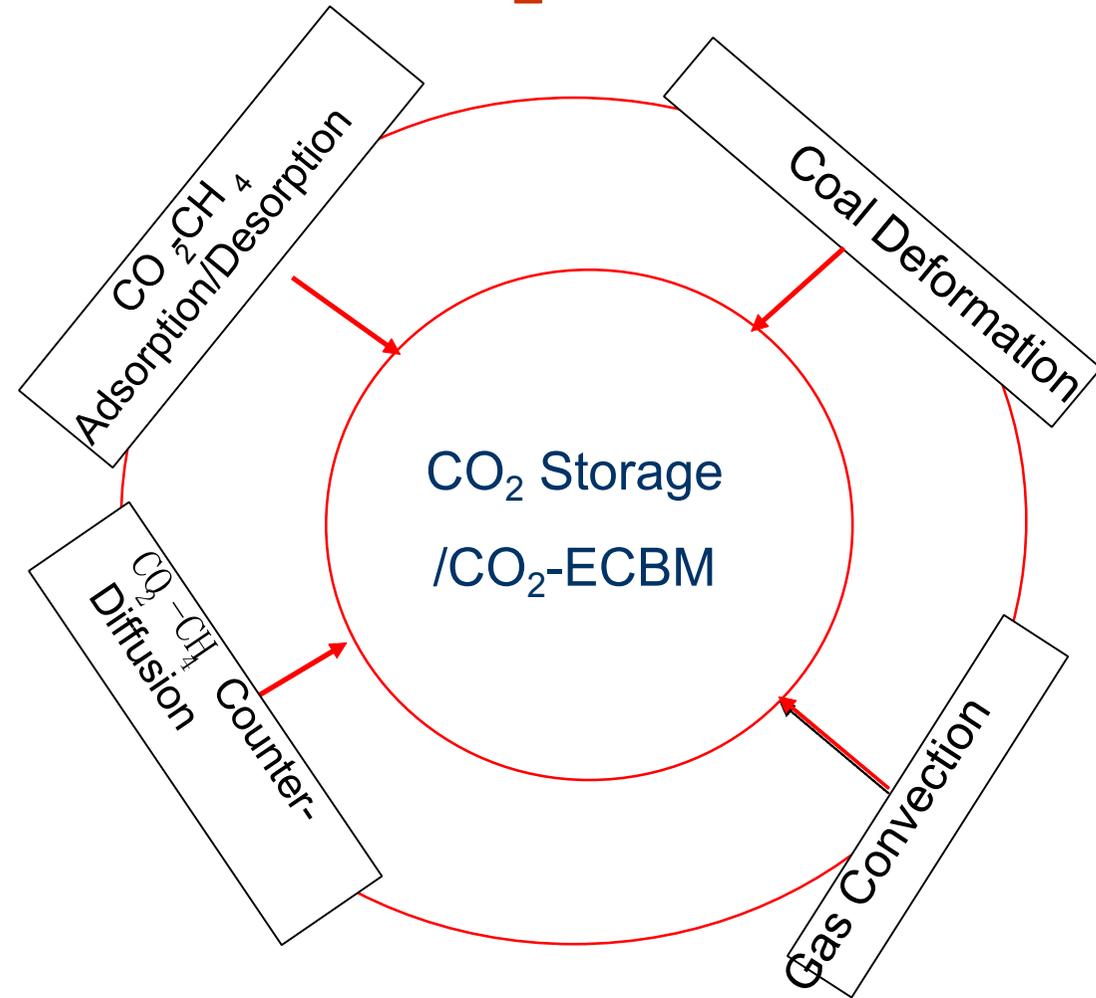
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# Key Scientific Issues for CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM

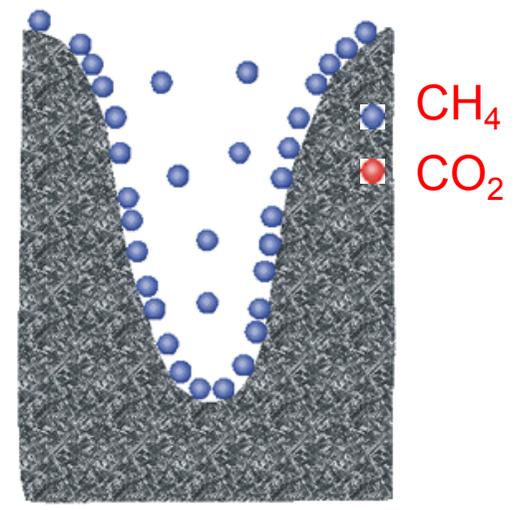
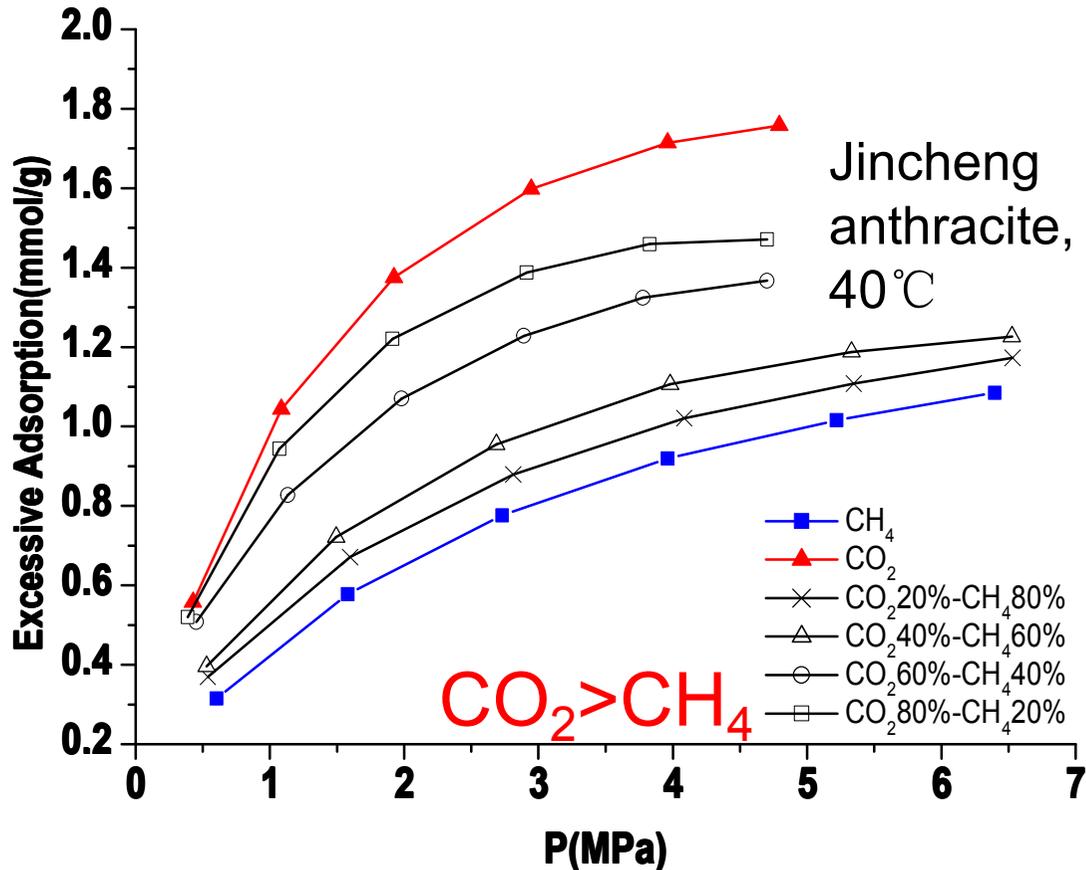
- ➡ **Gas sorption strain Vs. Effective stress strain**
- ➡ **CO<sub>2</sub> sorption Vs. CH<sub>4</sub> sorption**
- ➡ **Binary gas sorption induced differential swelling**



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# Experimental Evidence of Gas Competitive Adsorption



## CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM (Enhance Coal Bed Methane Recovery)

☞ Competitive sorption against methane

☞ Lowering the partial pressure of methane in the free gas

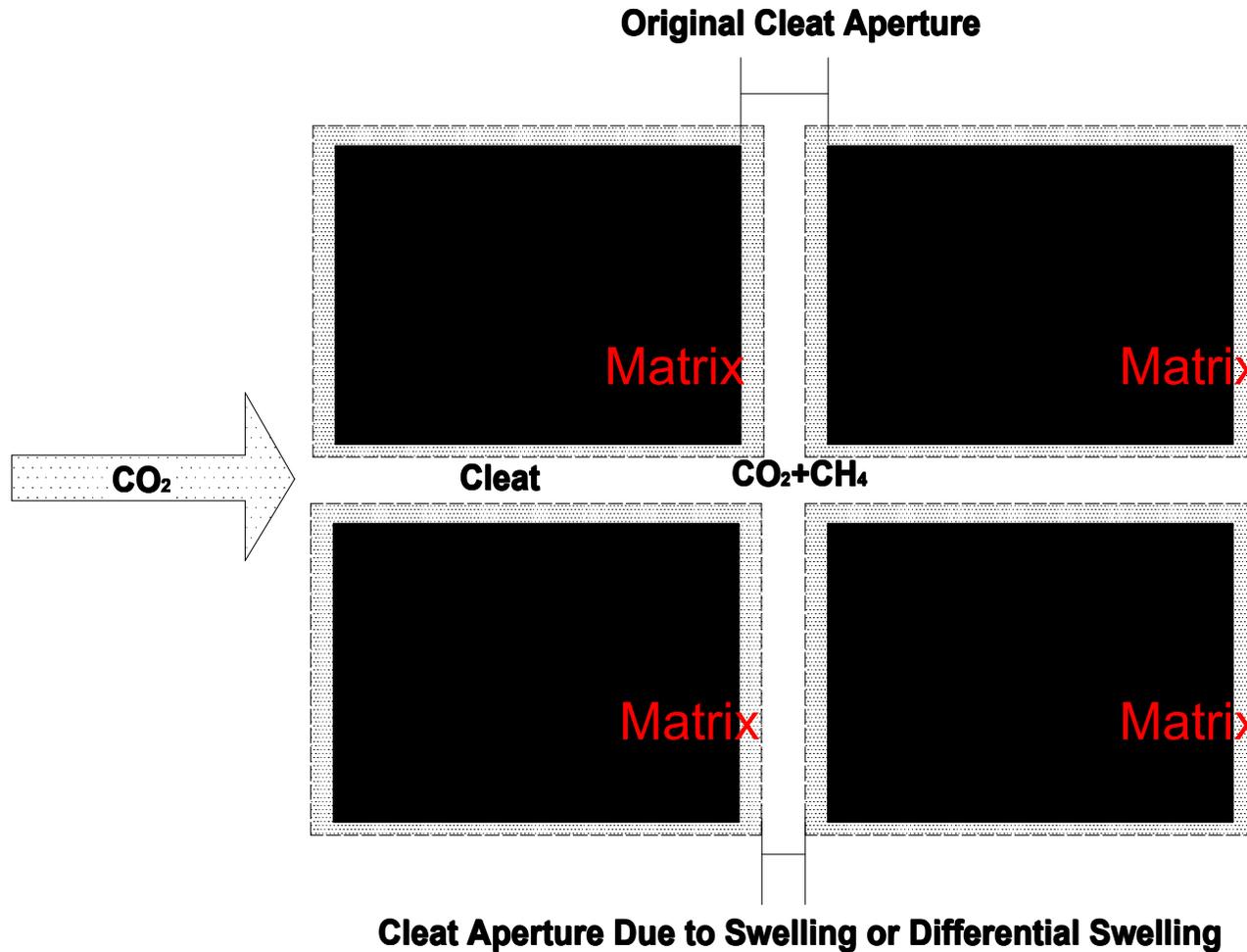


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# CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption induced coal matrix swelling



CO<sub>2</sub> sorption →  
Coal matrix  
swelling →  
Cleft aperture  
reducing →  
Permeability  
reducing



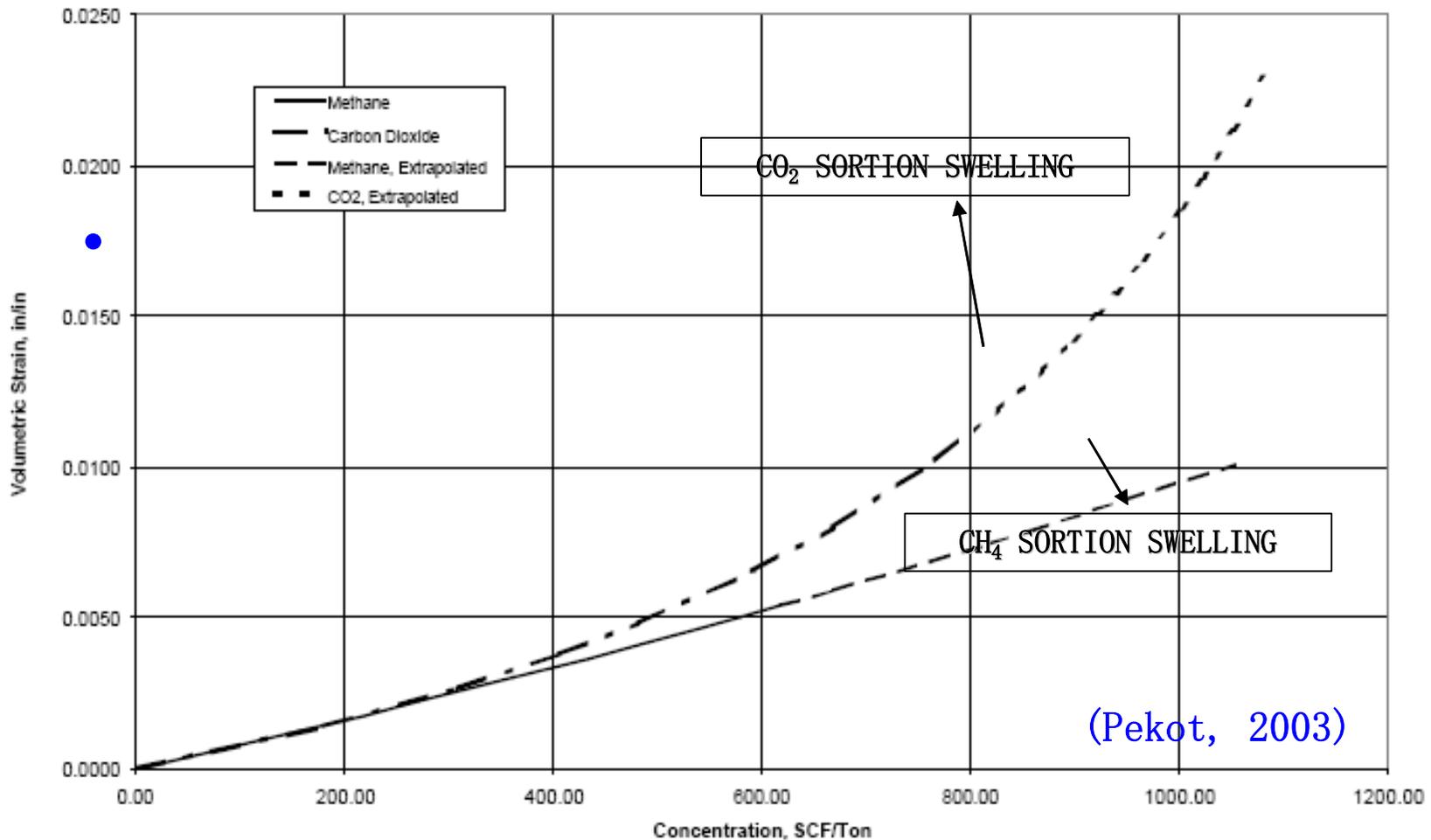
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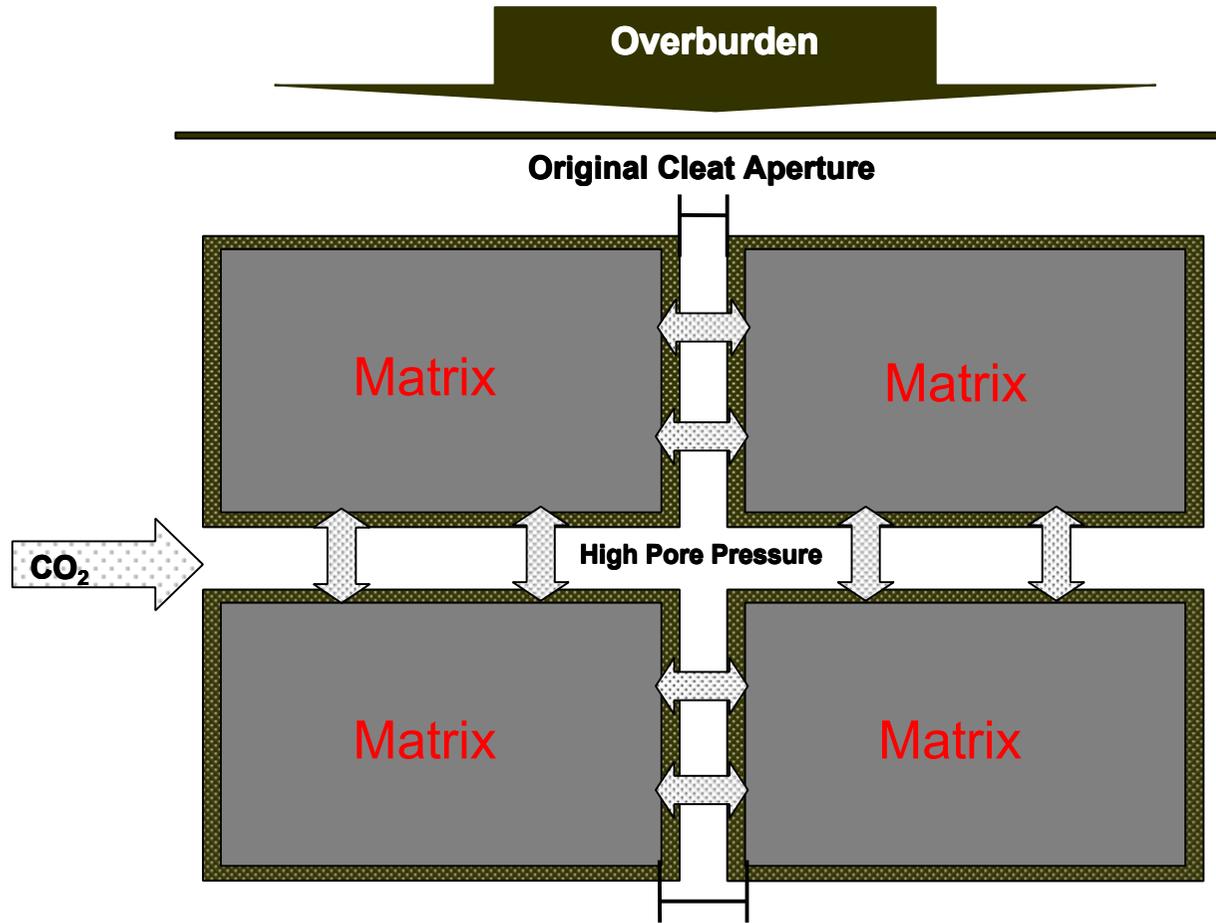
# Differential Swelling

CO<sub>2</sub> causes more swelling of coal matrix in response to CO<sub>2</sub> displacing CH<sub>4</sub>

The volumetric strain from CO<sub>2</sub> sorption is at least 1.5 times than from CH<sub>4</sub> (Chikatamarla, et al, 2004).



# Effective stress causing cleat aperture increase



$$\sigma_t = \sigma_{eff} + \alpha p$$

$$d\sigma_t = d\sigma_{eff} + \alpha dp$$

$$d\sigma_{eff} = d\sigma_t - \alpha dp$$

$$\varepsilon_{eff} = f(d\sigma_{eff})$$

$$\phi = \phi(\varepsilon) = \phi(\varepsilon_s, \varepsilon_e)$$

$$\frac{k}{k_0} = \left( \frac{\phi}{\phi_0} \right)^3$$

Cleat Aperture Due to Effective Stress Reduction

CO<sub>2</sub> injection → High pore pressure → Cleat aperture  
Increasing → Permeability increasing

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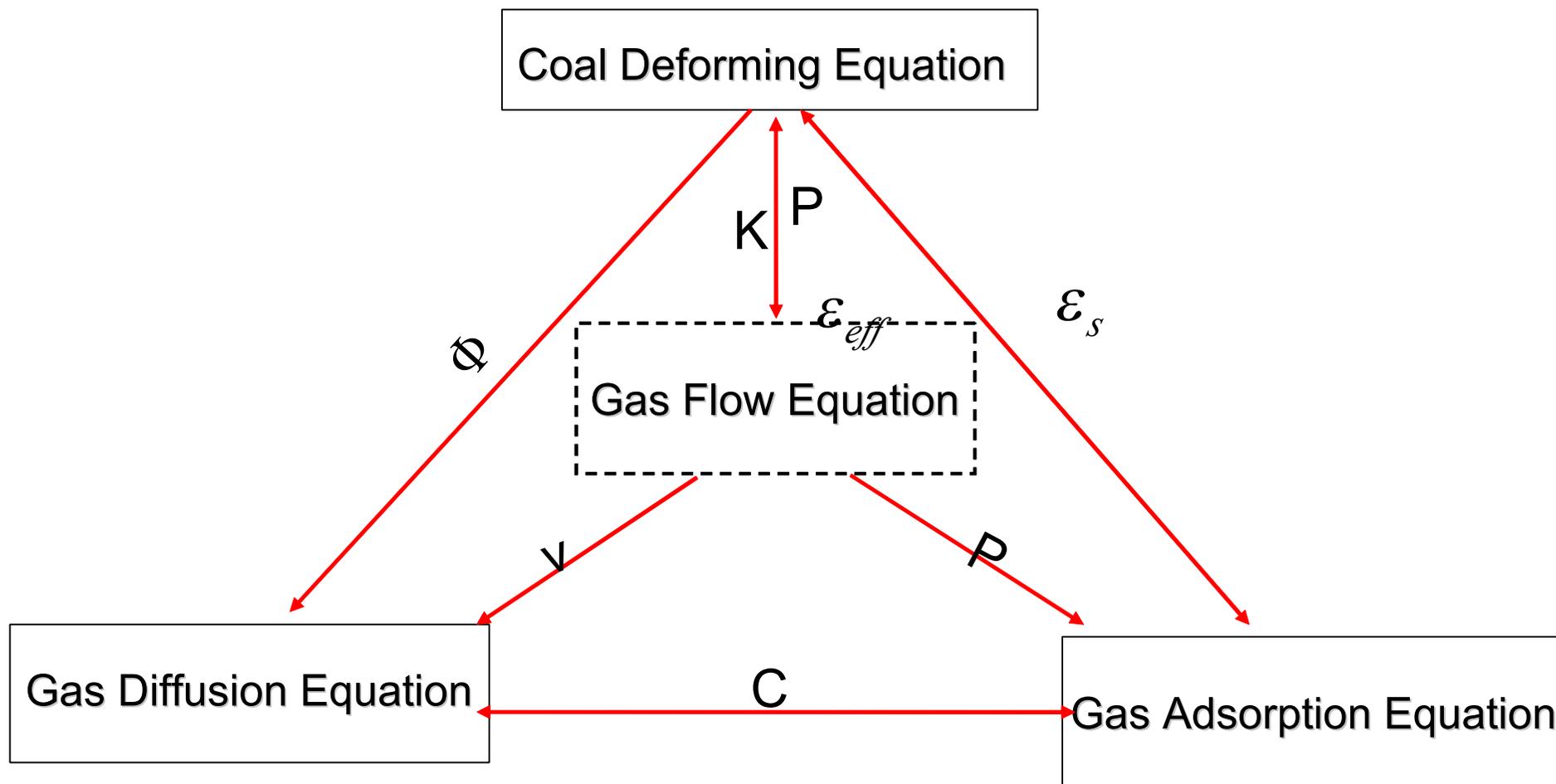
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# Modeling of CO<sub>2</sub> ECBM

## ✿ Governing Equations



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# Assumptions

- ① Coal is homogeneous, isotropic and elastic continuum, and the system is isothermal.
- ② Strains are much smaller than the length scale.
- ③ Gas contained within the pores is ideal, and its viscosity is constant under isothermal conditions.
- ④ Gas flow through the coal matrix is assumed to be viscous flow obeying Darcy ' s law (water phase is not included in the model).



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👉 Isothermal adsorption ----Extended Langmuir Equation:

$$V_i = \frac{V_{Li} b_i P_i}{1 + \sum b_i P_i}$$

👉 Adsorption-induced strain/pressure relationships fits with Langmuir like equation:

$$\varepsilon_s = \varepsilon_L \frac{p}{P_{\varepsilon L} + p} \quad \varepsilon_s = \sum_{i=1}^2 \varepsilon_i = \sum_{i=1}^2 \varepsilon_{Li} \frac{RTb_i C_i}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^2 RTb_j C_j}$$

(Harpalani and Schraufnagel, 1990; Cui and Bustin, 2005)

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➡ Coal deformation (Constitute Equation)

$$Gu_{i,kk} + \frac{G}{1-2\nu} u_{k,ki} - \alpha p_{,i} - K\varepsilon_{s,i} + f_i = 0$$

↓

Pressure  
deformation

↓

Sorption induced  
deformation

➡ Coal porosity and permeability

$$\phi = \frac{1}{1+S} [(1+S_0)\phi_0 + \alpha(S-S_0)]$$

$$\frac{k}{k_0} = \left( \frac{1}{1+S} \left[ (1+S_0) + \frac{\alpha}{\phi_0} (S-S_0) \right] \right)^3$$

$$S = \varepsilon_v + \frac{p}{K_s} - \varepsilon_s = \varepsilon_v + \frac{p}{K_s} - \sum_{i=1}^2 \varepsilon_{Li} \frac{RTb_i C_i}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^2 RTb_j C_j}$$

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➡ Binary gas diffusion and convection  
(Mass Balance Equation)

$$\frac{\partial m}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho_g \cdot q_g) = \nabla \cdot (D \cdot \phi \nabla C_f) + Q_s$$

$$\text{CO}_2 \quad M_1 C_1 \frac{\alpha - \phi}{1 + S} \left[ \frac{\partial \varepsilon_v}{\partial t} + \frac{RT}{K_s} \left( \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial t} \right) - \frac{\partial \varepsilon_s}{\partial t} \right] + \phi \cdot M_1 \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} + \rho_c M_1 \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial t} +$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left[ M_1 C_1 \cdot \left( -\frac{kRT}{\mu} \nabla C_1 \right) \right] + \nabla \cdot [-D\phi \cdot \nabla (M_1 C_1)] = 0$$

$$\text{CH}_4 \quad M_2 C_2 \frac{\alpha - \phi}{1 + S} \left[ \frac{\partial \varepsilon_v}{\partial t} + \frac{RT}{K_s} \left( \frac{\partial C_1}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial t} \right) - \frac{\partial \varepsilon_s}{\partial t} \right] + \phi \cdot M_2 \frac{\partial C_2}{\partial t} + \rho_c M_2 \frac{\partial V_2}{\partial t} +$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left[ M_2 C_2 \cdot \left( -\frac{kRT}{\mu} \nabla C_1 \right) \right] + \nabla \cdot [-D\phi \cdot \nabla (M_2 C_2)] = 0$$

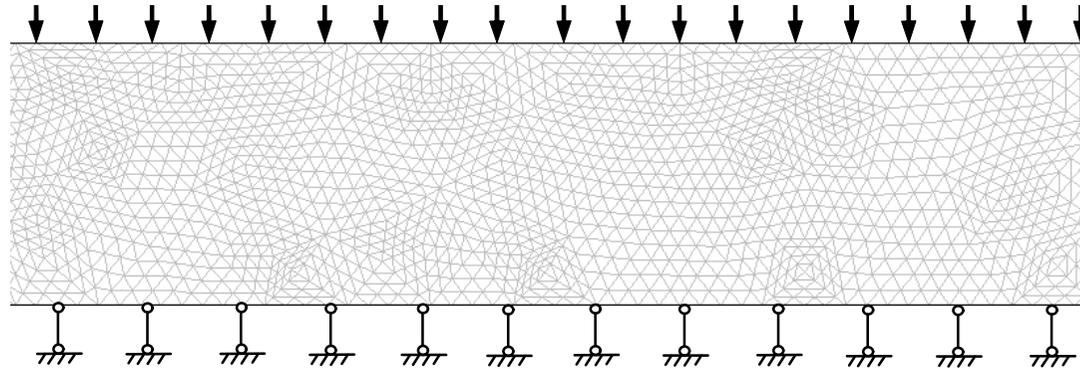
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## Validation and Verification of Modeling



Experiments provided by Mazumder et al, 2007

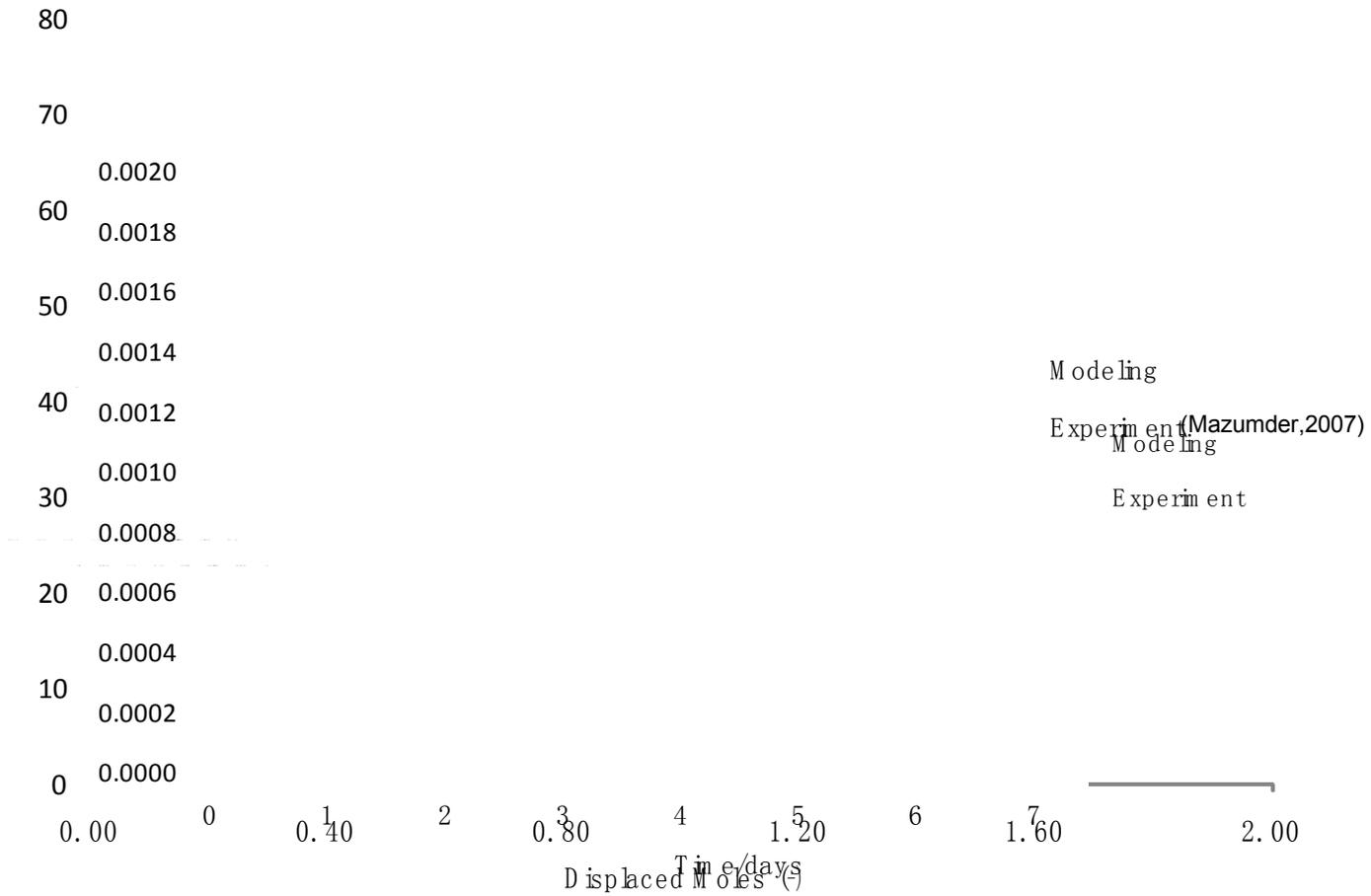
- ◆ Sample was 334mm long and 69.50mm in diameter
- ◆ Pore pressure was 4.3MPa
- ◆ The difference between the annular pressure and the pore pressure was 3.61MPa
- ◆ CO<sub>2</sub> was injected from the left side and flowed out from the right side.
- ◆ The injection rate is 6.0ml/h.

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$$\text{Sweep efficiency} = \frac{\text{moles of CH}_4 \text{ produced} \times 100\%}{\text{moles of CH}_4 \text{ initially in place}}$$

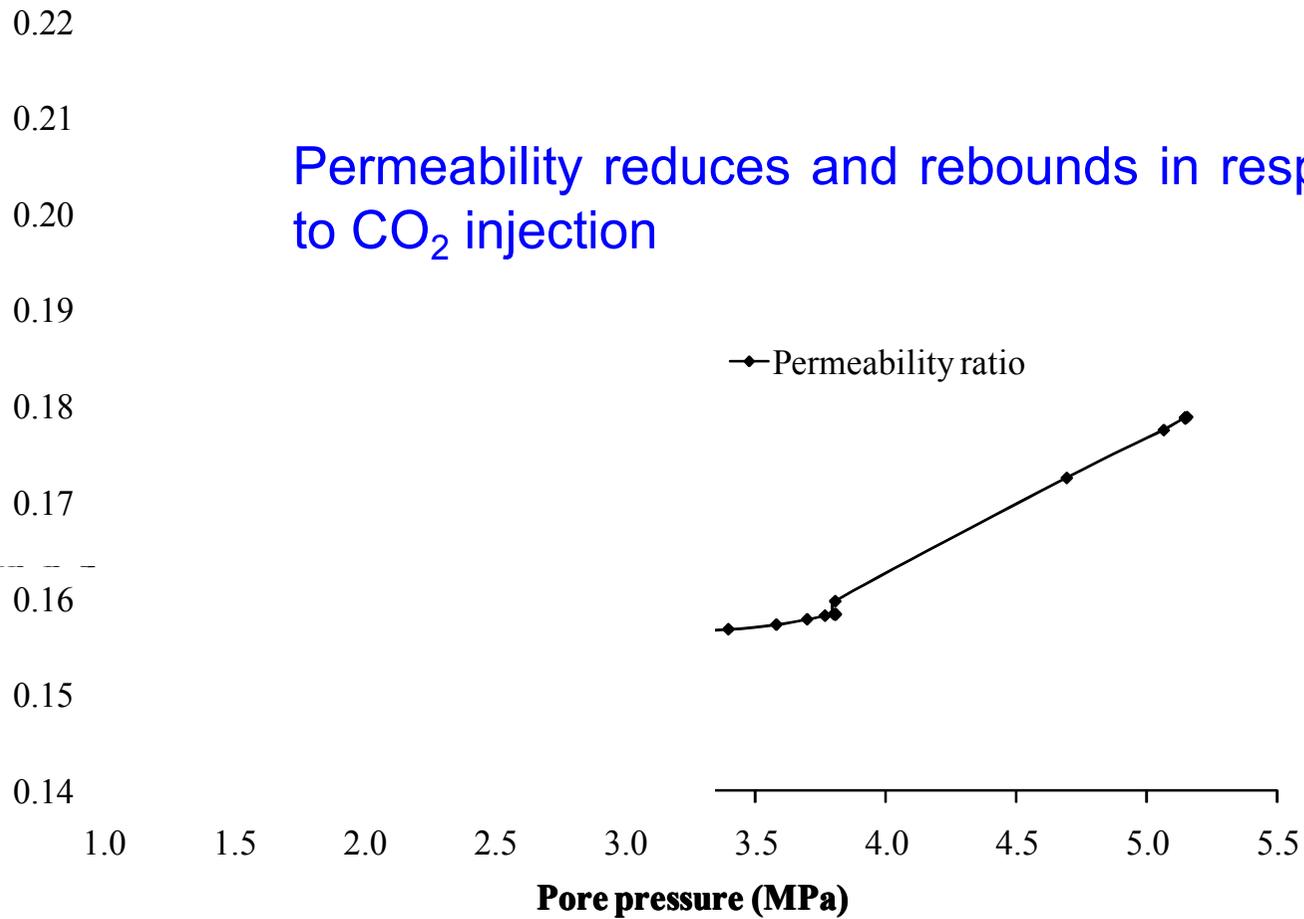
$$\text{Displaced volume} = \frac{\text{moles of CO}_2 \text{ injected}}{\text{moles of CH}_4 \text{ initially in place}}$$



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## Permeability reduces and rebounds in response to CO<sub>2</sub> injection



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# CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM Technology

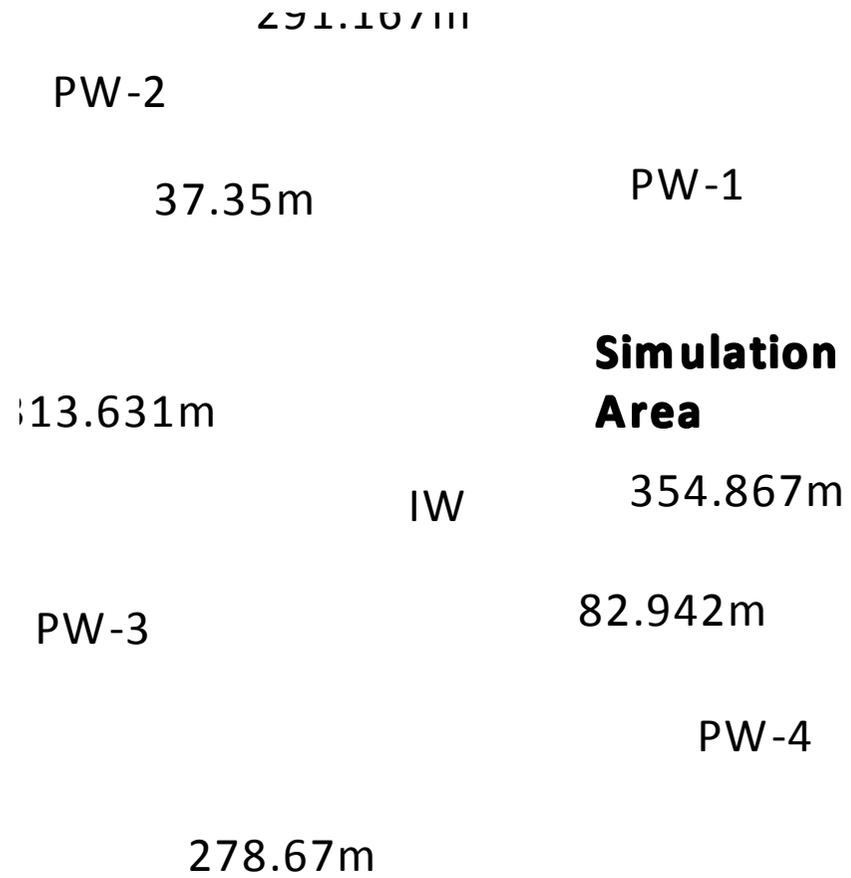
Pilot test at Well TL-003, Zhaoyuan, Jincheng

Jointly made by China CBM Corp. & Alberta Research Council

120 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> Injection



# ❁ Modeling of Pilot test in Jincheng Coal Gas Reservoir



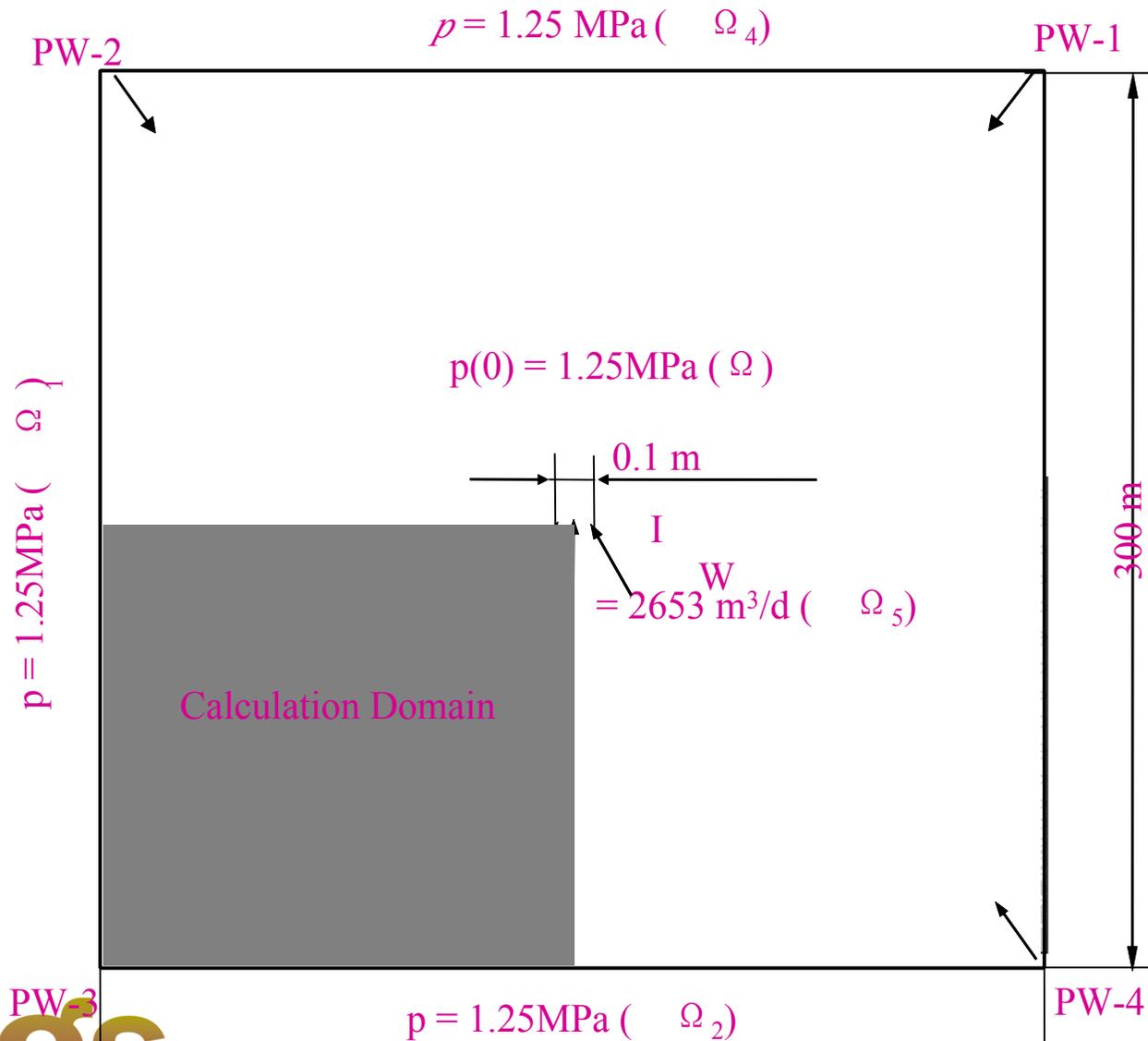
(Wong, 2007)



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# Finite Element Model

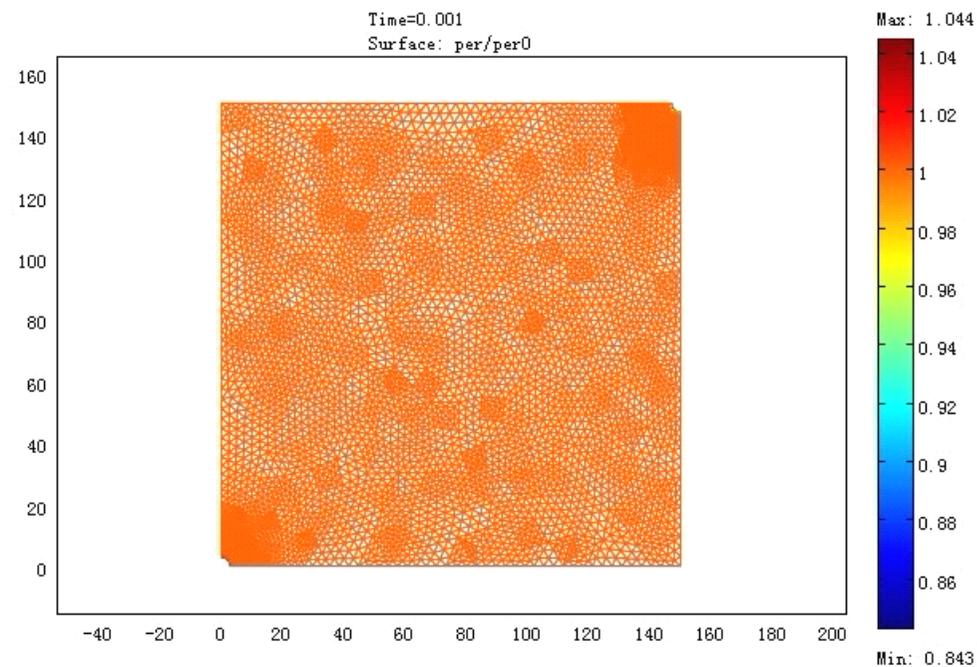
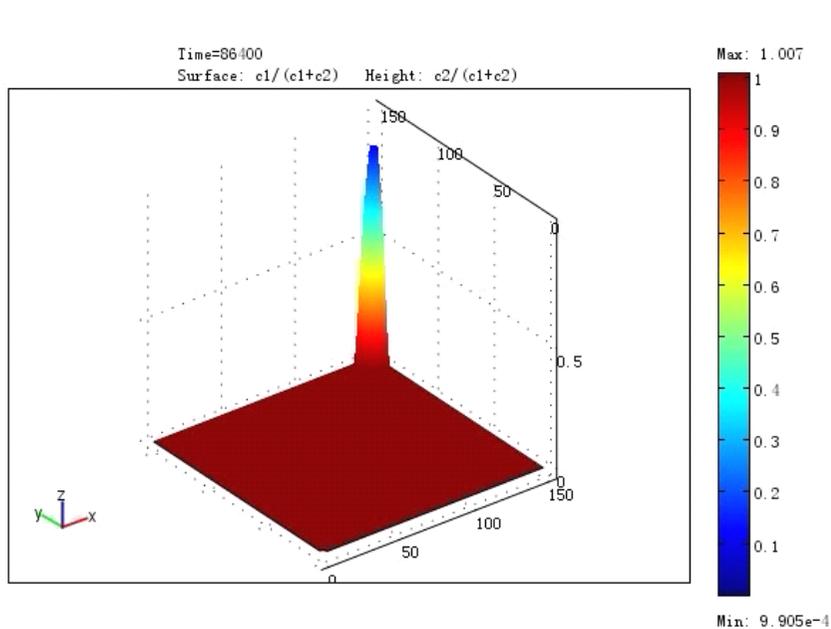


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# 🌸 CO<sub>2</sub> Sweeping CH<sub>4</sub>



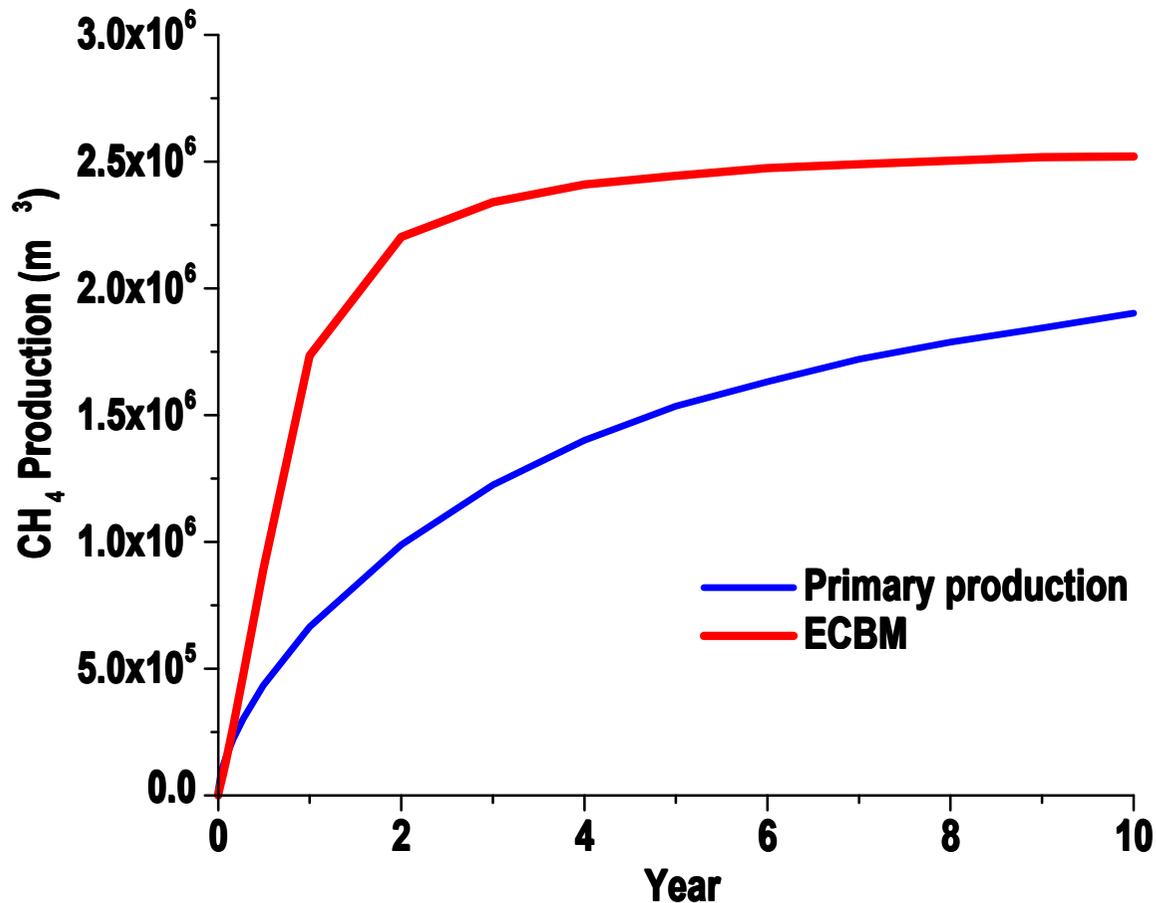
Binary gas component exchange

Change of coal seam permeability



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- After six months of injection, the CBM production is dramatically enhanced.
- CO<sub>2</sub>-ECBM helps to extract 1.44 times more methane than the primary production
- $1.75 \times 10^4$  t of CO<sub>2</sub> is sequestered in the 300\*300 m<sup>2</sup> area within 10 years

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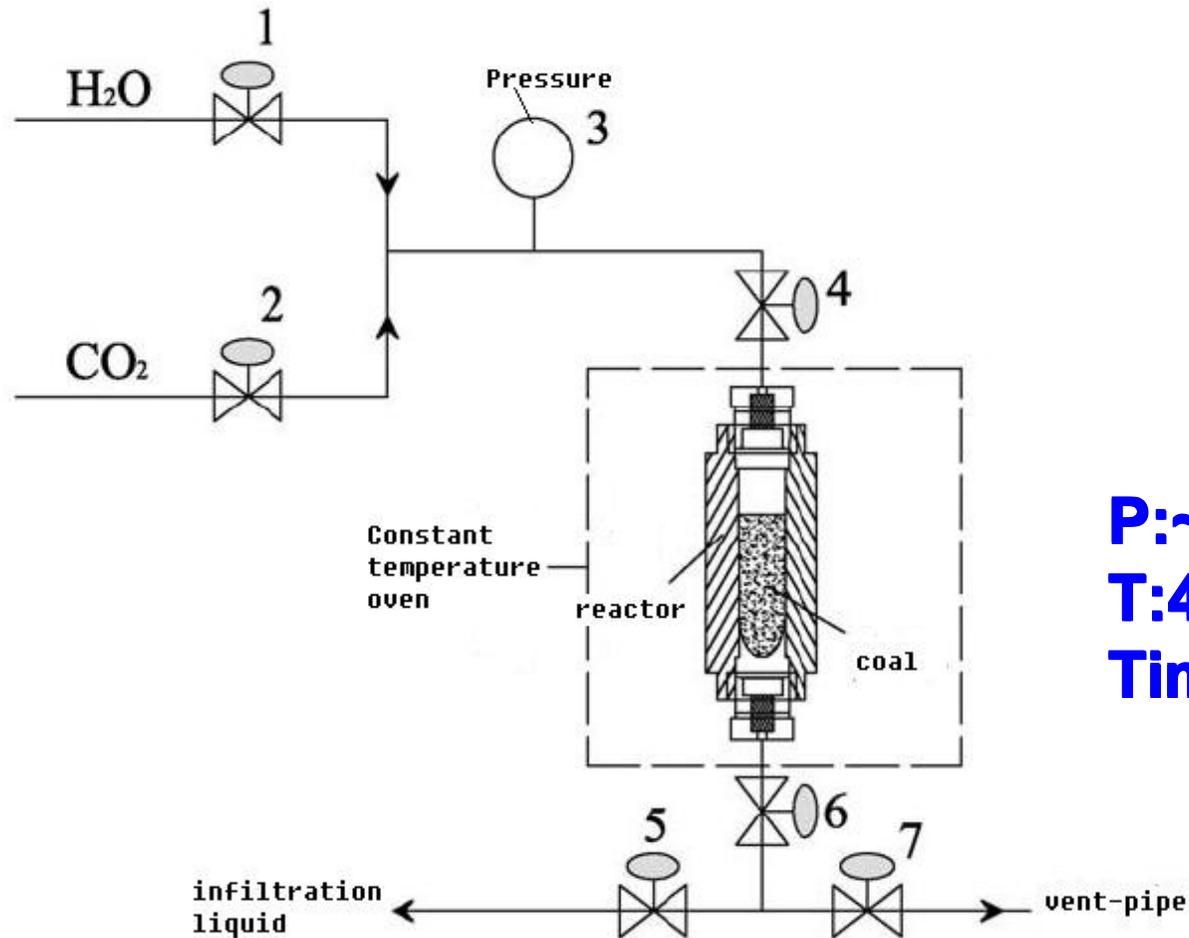
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# Sketch of Reactor



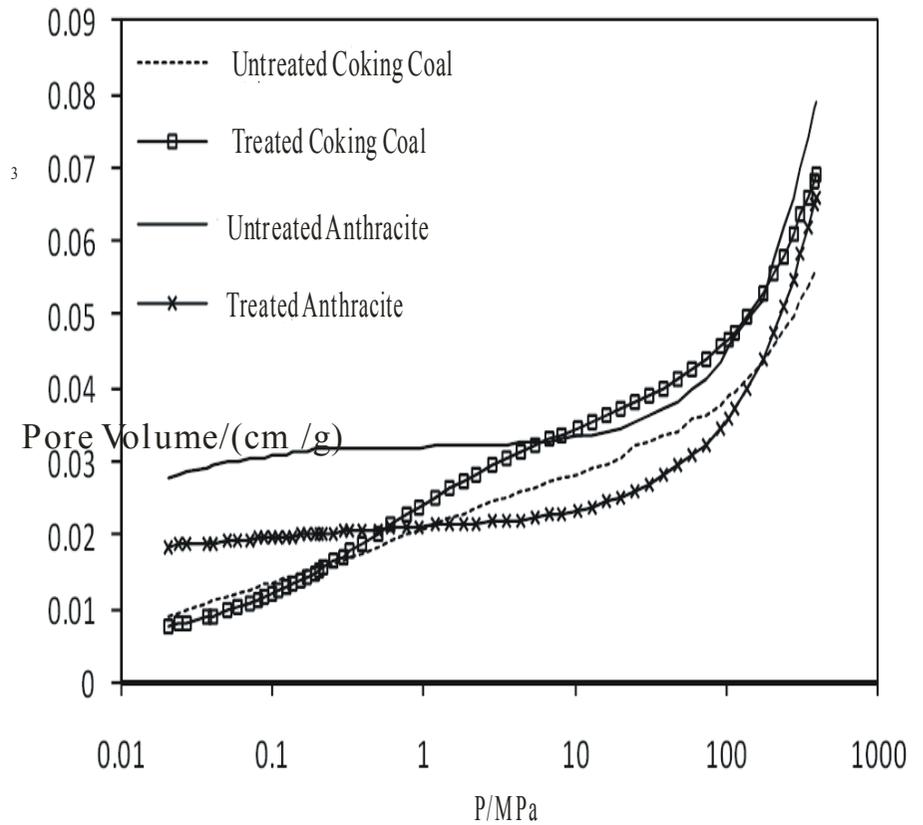
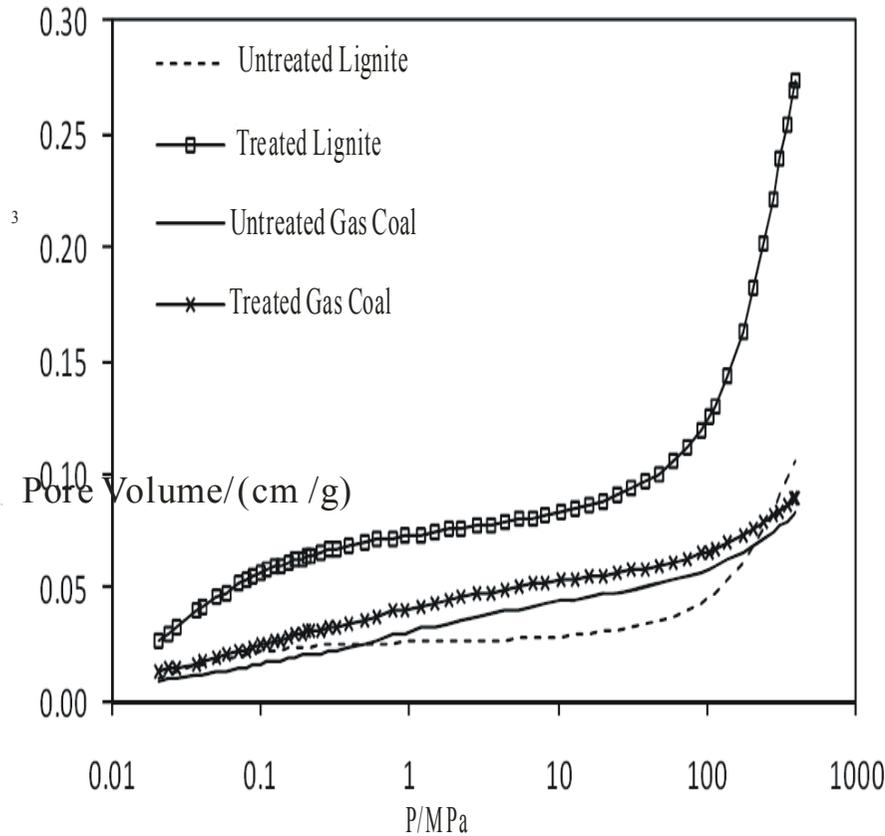
**P:~10MPa**  
**T:40°C**  
**Time: 72 h**



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# Cumulative pore volume of different rank coal (mercury injection)



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## Permeability changed during the process

- Firstly, decrease in the initial stage;
- Secondly, briefly stability ;
- Thirdly, increase in the middle stage;
- Lastly, stability



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# 4 Conclusions and Puzzled

## Conclusions:

- A fully coupled coal deformation, gas transport and gas adsorption/desorption finite element (FE) model is introduced to achieve a better understanding of gas-coal interactions, implications for ECBM and CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration in coal seams.
- COMSOL FE simulator is extended to simulate the CO<sub>2</sub> injection performance in Qinshui Basin under field scale and conditions, to address in-situ spatial-temporal binary gas composition exchange and evolutions of coal permeability.
- CO<sub>2</sub> storage in coal seam can improve the coal structure and influence permeability.

## Puzzled:

- Which is more important to permeability change, adsorption swelling or reaction between H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub> and minerals?



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**Thank you for your attentions!**

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