

Occupation behavior of CO₂ and N₂O guests in hydroquinone clathrate cages

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Clathrates are crystalline inclusion compounds formed by interactions between host and guest molecules. The host molecule can be inorganic such as water known to form substances called gas hydrates and organic such as hydroquinone (HQ). They have garnered attention due to their high storage capacity for guest molecules and efficient separation ability from gas mixtures. Especially, using HQ clathrate, an efficient clathrate-based greenhouse gas separation (CBGS) technology is a recently used method for recovery of target greenhouse gases (GHGs). The objective of this study was to evaluate potential validity of using HQ clathrate formed from CO₂-N₂O gas mixtures for storage and recovery of GHGs. The crystal structure and guest enclathration were investigated using XRD, SEM, Raman spectroscopy, FT-IR, and solid-state NMR. The molecular ratio of host to guest in the CO₂ and N₂O HQ clathrate was presented as cage occupancy and gas storage. Selectivity measurements and Kinetics experiments indicate there is no preferential competition between CO₂ and N₂O compared to other gas mixtures or gases. This study will present a new direction for the development of advanced CBGS technology.