

# The Variation Law of CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption / Desorption Energy of Coal under Infrared Action

Kai Ma<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>China Coal Technology and Engineering Group Chongqing Research Institute, Chongqing 400037, China

<sup>2</sup>State Key Laboratory of Coal Mine Disaster Prevention and Control, Chongqing 400037, China

**Abstract:** The adsorption / desorption process of coalbed methane is actually a process of mutual transformation between free state and adsorbed state of gas molecules. Because the molecular movement process is inevitably accompanied by energy changes, it is of great significance to study the energy changes in the process of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption of coal to study the migration law of coalbed methane. The adsorption and desorption characteristics of CO<sub>2</sub> on coal under different infrared powers were studied by using the self-designed infrared isothermal adsorption / desorption simulation tester. The energy calculation theory in the adsorption / desorption process was used to obtain the energy change law in the adsorption / desorption process under the experimental conditions. The results show that the CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption efficiency of coal under the action of power infrared can be explained from the energy point of view, and the free energy of the adsorption and desorption state is affected by the infrared power and pressure, which is consistent with the experimental results of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption of coal under the action of power infrared. The adsorption characteristic curves of different infrared powers have basically the same change trend, which all meet the cubic polynomial fitting relationship, and the fitting degree is high, R<sup>2</sup> is above.

## 1. Introduction

As a clean energy, coalbed methane is a renewable resource. It mainly occurs in coal seams and their surrounding rocks, and is an unconventional natural gas. Although China's coalbed methane resources are very rich, due to geological differences, coalbed methane occurrence conditions are relatively poor. Low reservoir pressure, low coal permeability and low adsorption saturation are the objective factors that lead to low efficiency of coalbed methane exploitation. Due to the above many factors, coalbed methane desorption and migration are difficult, resulting in the current situation of low production and rapid production decline of most coalbed methane wells in China. Based on the above situation, it is one of the important work to study the adsorption / desorption characteristics of coalbed methane in the reservoir to improve its mining efficiency.

The adsorption of CO<sub>2</sub> by coal is a complex physical process. Due to the different microscopic pore structure of coal and the different energy changes in the macroscopic adsorption / desorption process, the adsorption / desorption capacity of CO<sub>2</sub> by coal is different. The essence of adsorption is a spontaneous trend of coal to reduce surface free energy by reducing surface tension. Therefore, the study of energy changes in the process of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption by coal can essentially explain different adsorption phenomena<sup>[1-7]</sup>. Liu et al.<sup>[8]</sup> studied the variation law of coal energy with different coal structure in the process of isothermal adsorption. Liu

Jikun<sup>[9]</sup> conducted an experimental study on the thermal effect of coal gas adsorption and desorption process. Wu Di et al.<sup>[10]</sup> studied the desorption law of gas in briquette under ultrasonic thermal effect. Lu et al.<sup>[11]</sup> conducted an experimental study on the influence of thermal effect of cavitation water jet on coal permeability. In order to improve the mining efficiency of coalbed methane and increase the output of coalbed methane, it is very important to study new coalbed methane mining methods. The research group proposed a new method of using power infrared to exploit coalbed methane. Therefore, in the process of coalbed methane exploitation, the study of the change law of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption energy of coal under the action of power infrared is an important basis for the follow-up study of coalbed methane exploitation by power infrared. The energy variation law of coal adsorption / desorption process under different infrared power and different pressure was studied by using the self-designed power infrared isothermal adsorption / desorption simulation tester. The test results have a positive effect on the targeted development of coalbed methane mining efficiency and productivity prediction research.

\*Corresponding author: makai0810@163.com

## 2. Infrared isothermal adsorption /desorption experiments

### 2.1. Experimental installation

The radiation effect of electromagnetic wave mainly depends on the degree of absorption of electromagnetic wave by the medium. The higher the absorption rate, the better the radiation effect. The absorption rate depends on the type and surface state of the heated material. Due to the special physical properties of coal, it has good absorption performance for electromagnetic waves. In this experiment, the self-designed electromagnetic wave adsorption / desorption simulation test instrument was used to carry out the experiment. The experimental instrument was mainly composed of electromagnetic wave generator, constant temperature box, sample cylinder, reference cylinder, data acquisition device and high pressure gas cylinder. The allowable electromagnetic wave radiation power of the device is 0~100W, and the allowable experimental pressure is 0~20MPa. The experimental principle of isothermal adsorption / desorption of coalbed methane under the action of electromagnetic wave is as follows: Using the compression factor state equation, the total gas amount  $n_0$  at the initial time is obtained. The balance valve was opened. After the sample was fully adsorbed, the residual gas amount  $n_1$  and the adsorption amount  $n = n_0 - n_1$  were obtained by using the compression factor gas state equation. The calculation principle of desorption amount is the same as that of the above adsorption amount. The simulation test device of isothermal adsorption / desorption of coalbed methane based on power infrared is shown in Fig.1.

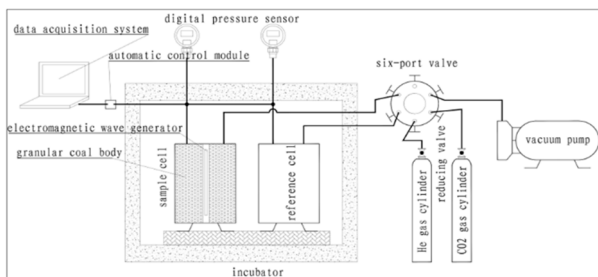


Fig.1 Simulation of Coal bed Methane Isothermal Adsorption / Desorption Simulator Based on Power Infrared

### 2.2. Experimental installation

The experimental coal sample is taken from the experimental sample of Haizhou mine. The gas measured in the free space volume is high-purity helium (99.99% purity), and the gas adsorbed and desorbed in the experiment is high-purity CO<sub>2</sub> gas (99.99% purity). The coal rock parameters selected in the experiment are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 the Coal Rock Parameters Selected in the Experiment

component	organic carbon	clay minerals	vitrinite group	others
content (%)	75.00	10.28	6.22	8.50

### 2.3. Experimental result

The experimental results of adsorption / desorption of CO<sub>2</sub> by coal rock under different infrared power are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Coal for Power at Different Infrared CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorption / Desorption Results

state	infrared power $P_{IP}$ (W)	Langmuir volume $V_L$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	Langmuir pressure $P_L$ (Mpa)
adsorption	15	39.76540	2.921
	20	36.67974	2.919
	25	31.47020	2.919
	30	25.74953	2.999
desorption	15	41.09540	2.314
	20	37.43388	2.434
	25	33.68138	2.648
	30	27.32070	2.600

## 3. Calculation of adsorption / desorption energy under infrared radiation

### 3.1. Infrared power-temperature conversion relationship

The temperature variation law of coal-rock mass under different far-infrared radiation power is the basis of this experiment. Firstly, the experiment on the temperature variation law of coal-rock mass under different far-infrared radiation power is carried out. Then, the obtained experimental data are fitted to obtain the following far-infrared radiation power-far-infrared action temperature conversion formula ( Formula (1) ).

$$T = 265.0217 + 3.56908P_{IP} \quad (1)$$

In the formula :  $T$  is temperature, K ;  $P_{IP}$  is infrared power, W.

### 3.2. Surface free energy of coal adsorption

There are many pores in the coal rock mass. At the micro molecular motion level, due to the vacancy of the carbon atom on the surface of the pore, the force on both sides of the carbon atom is unbalanced, resulting in the traction force moving towards the inside of the coal body, so that the carbon atom has the tendency to move towards the inside of the coal rock mass. Under this gravitational trend, the energy obtained by the carbon atom on the surface of the coal rock mass moving towards the inside of the coal rock mass is the surface free energy. The calculation method of surface free energy in the process of carbon dioxide adsorption by coal rock mass can be expressed as Equation (2).

$$\Delta\gamma = \frac{V_L RT}{V_0 S} \ln\left(1 + \frac{P}{P_L}\right) \quad (2)$$

In the formula :  $V_L$  represents Langmuir volume ;  $P_L$  represents Langmuir pressure;  $P$  represents CO<sub>2</sub> pressure;  $\Delta\gamma$  represents the reduction value of free energy on the

surface of coal and rock mass,  $J/m^2$ ;  $R$  is the universal gas constant,  $8.3145J/(mol \cdot K)$ ;  $V_0$  represents the molar volume of gas under standard conditions,  $22.4 L/mol$ ;  $S$  represents the specific surface area of coal,  $m^2/g$ .

After differentiating the variable pressure  $P$  in equation(2), and then substituting equation(1) into it, the change value of free energy of coal and rock mass wall at each pressure point is obtained. The relationship is shown in equation(3).

$$\Delta\gamma_p = \frac{V_L R (265.0217 + 3.56908 P_{IP}) P_L}{V_0 S (P_L + P)} \quad (3)$$

### 3.3. Coal adsorption potential and adsorption space

When the pressure at the adsorption equilibrium of the gas medium is  $P_i$ , the pressure of the adsorption layer on the surface of the coal rock matrix is the saturated adsorption pressure  $P_0$  of the gas medium. According to the theory of thermodynamics, the energy required for each gram of gas medium to change from the free state to the adsorption state is calculated by Equation (4).

$$\varepsilon = \int_{P_i}^{P_0} \frac{RT}{P} dP = RT \ln \frac{P_0}{P_i} = R(265.0217 + 3.56908 P_{IP}) \ln \frac{P_0}{P_i} \quad (4)$$

In the equation,  $\varepsilon$  is the adsorption potential,  $J/mol$ ;  $P_0$  is the gas saturated steam pressure,  $MPa$ ;  $P_i$  is the equilibrium pressure of the ideal gas at constant temperature,  $MPa$ ;  $P$  is the equilibrium pressure,  $MPa$ ;  $R$  is a universal gas constant,  $J/(mol \cdot K)$ ;  $T$  is the absolute temperature,  $K$ .

The critical state  $CO_2$  saturated vapor pressure under this experimental condition refers to the pressure value of the vapor when it is in phase equilibrium with the coal rock mass under a certain infrared power in a closed condition.

The pressure  $P_0$  of the adsorption layer on the surface of the coal rock matrix is calculated by Equation (5).

$$P_0 = P_c \left( \frac{T}{T_c} \right)^2 = P_c \left( \frac{265.0217 + 3.56908 P_{IP}}{T_c} \right)^2 \quad (5)$$

In the formula:  $P_c$  is the critical pressure of carbon dioxide, with a value of  $7.38MPa$ ;  $T_c$  is the critical temperature of carbon dioxide, with a value of  $221.7K$ .

The pore structure of coal and rock mass is characterized by the adsorption space volume. The space volume occupied by the adsorption of  $CO_2$  gas medium in the pores of coal rock is calculated according to Equation (5).

$$\omega = \frac{V_{ad} M}{\rho_{ad}} \quad (6)$$

In the equation:  $\omega$  for the adsorption space volume,  $m^3/t$ ;  $M$  is the gas molecular weight,  $g/mol$ ;  $V_{ad}$  is the amount of gas adsorption,  $mol/g$ ;  $\rho_{ad}$  is the density of  $CO_2$  gas adsorption phase, which is  $1.40928 g/m^3$ .

## 4. Analysis of adsorption / desorption energy calculation results

Fig.2 and Fig.4 are the total free energy reduction curves of different infrared power adsorption states and

desorption states, respectively. Fig.3 and Fig.5 are the free energy reduction curves of different infrared power adsorption states and desorption states at each pressure point, respectively. Fig.6 to Fig.9 are the adsorption characteristic curves at far infrared power of 15W, 20W, 25W and 30W, respectively. Fig.10 is the adsorption potential change curve of different states, and Table 3 is the adsorption characteristic curve fitting data table.

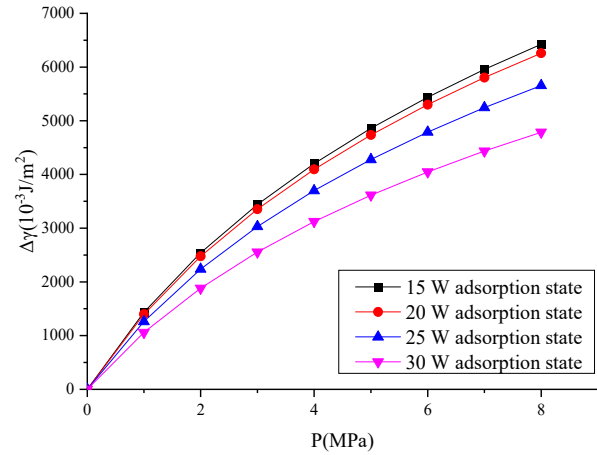


Fig.2 the Total Reduction Curve of Free Energy in Different Infrared Power Adsorption States

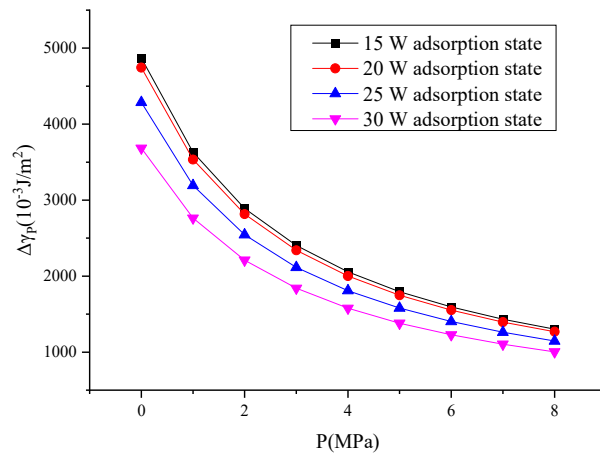


Fig.3 the Free Energy Reduction Curves of Each Pressure in Different Infrared Power Adsorption States

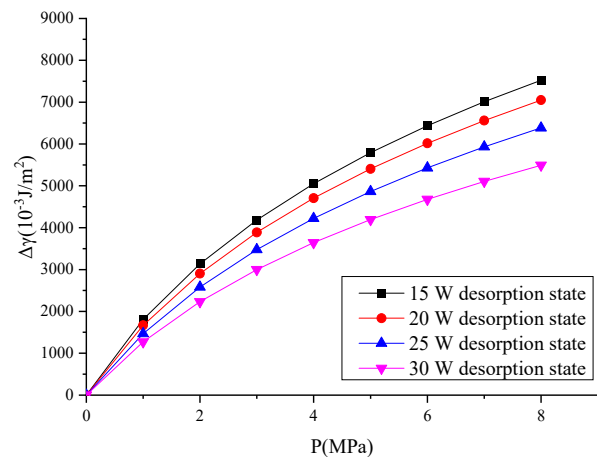
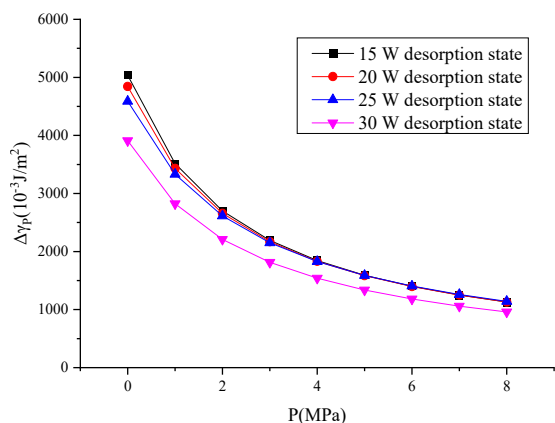
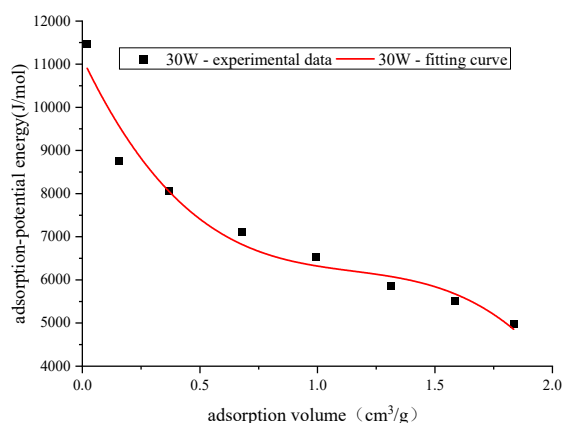


Fig.4 the Total Reduction Curve of Free Energy in Different Infrared Power Desorption States



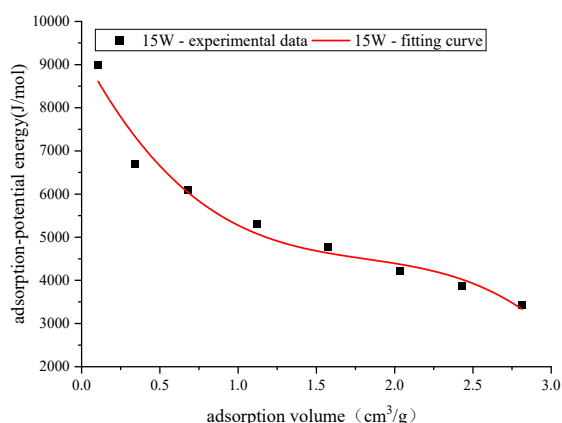
**Fig.5** Free Energy Reduction Curves of Different Pressure in Different Infrared Power Adsorption States



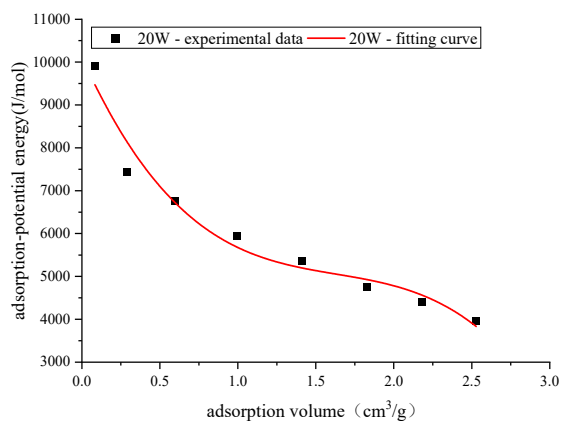
**Fig.9** Adsorption Characteristic Curve of Infrared Power 30W

**Table 3** Adsorption Characteristic Curve Fitting Data Table

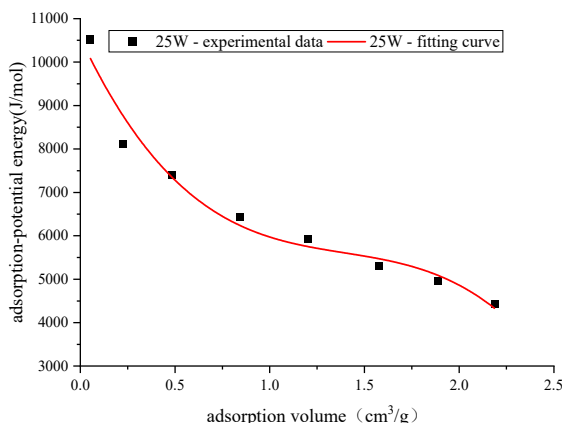
power	Adsorption characteristics cubic curve fitting ( $e=a\omega+b\omega^2+c\omega^3+d$ )				
	a	b	c	d	R <sup>2</sup>
15W	-6871.9	3490.3	-640.3	9299.0	0.9
20W	-8095.7	4586.6	-936.7	10120.7	0.9
25W	-9252.1	6132.2	-1464.8	10557.0	0.9
30W	-11433.2	9316.8	-2697.8	11135.1	0.9



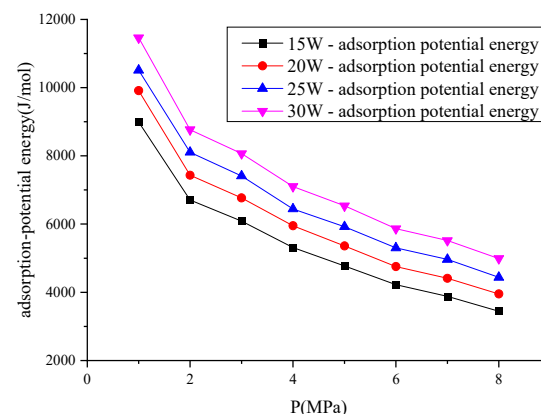
**Fig.6** Adsorption Characteristic Curve of Infrared Power 15W



**Fig.7** Adsorption Characteristic Curve of Infrared Power 20W



**Fig.8** Adsorption Characteristic Curve of Infrared Power 25W



**Fig.10** Adsorption Potential Curves in Different States

By comparing and analyzing the total reduction value of free energy, the reduction value of each pressure point and the adsorption characteristic curve in the process of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption by coal under the action of power infrared, the following rules are obtained.

(1) Under the action of power infrared, the change trend of the total reduction of free energy in the process of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption by coal is consistent. At the same infrared power, the total reduction of free energy increases with the increase of pressure. Under the same pressure condition, the total reduction of free energy decreases with the increase of infrared power. Temperature change is a macroscopic sign of molecular motion. The above conclusions show that with the increase of infrared power, the total free decrease of CO<sub>2</sub> molecules becomes smaller, and the kinetic energy of CO<sub>2</sub> molecules increases, which leads to the decrease of the adsorption capacity of coal to CO<sub>2</sub> molecules, thus improving the desorption efficiency. The pressure is positively correlated with the total reduction of free energy. In the process of increasing pressure, the kinetic energy of CO<sub>2</sub> molecules decreases, thus promoting the adsorption efficiency of CO<sub>2</sub> molecules by coal. The

results are consistent with the macroscopic results of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption by coal under the action of power infrared.

(2) The free energy reduction curve of each pressure point in different infrared power adsorption states reflects the reduction rate of total free reduction under different infrared power, and it is also a sign of the difficulty of coal adsorption of CO<sub>2</sub> under the action of infrared reaction power. Under the condition of the same infrared power, the decrease of free energy at each pressure point of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption state decreases with the increase of pressure. It shows that the decrease rate of the total free energy decrease during the adsorption / desorption process becomes slower, and the coal is more difficult to carry out CO<sub>2</sub> over time during the adsorption and desorption process.

(3) The adsorption potential energy decreases with the increase of adsorption space. The variation trend of adsorption characteristic curves of different infrared powers is basically the same, which satisfies the cubic power function fitting relationship, and the fitting degree is high, and R<sup>2</sup> is above 94 %.

(4) Under the same pressure, the adsorption potential increases with the increase of power when the free state of CO<sub>2</sub> becomes the adsorbed state under the action of power infrared. It shows that the higher the infrared power is, the more work CO<sub>2</sub> does from free state to adsorption state, and the more difficult it is for coal to adsorb CO<sub>2</sub>. Under the same infrared power condition, the adsorption potential is negatively correlated with the pressure.

## 5. Conclusion

(1) The rate and difficulty of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption by coal under the action of power infrared are related to the total reduction of free energy and the reduction of free energy at each pressure point. The greater the total reduction of free energy and the reduction of free energy at each pressure point, the easier it is to be adsorbed and the higher the adsorption efficiency.

(2) The variation trend of adsorption characteristic curves of different infrared powers is basically the same, which satisfies the cubic power function fitting relationship, and the fitting degree is high, and R<sup>2</sup> is above 94 %.

(3) The CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption efficiency of coal under the action of power infrared can be explained from the energy point of view. The free energy of adsorption and desorption state is affected by infrared power and pressure. This result is consistent with the experimental results of CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption / desorption by coal under the action of power infrared.

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