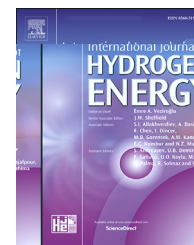


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HIGHLIGHTS

- Achieving high capacity hydrogen energy storage in gas hydrate at mild conditions.
- Chemical energy in the additives dramatically increase total energy storage density.
- Mechanism of tBA promote hydrate-based H₂ storage was studied by Raman spectroscopy.

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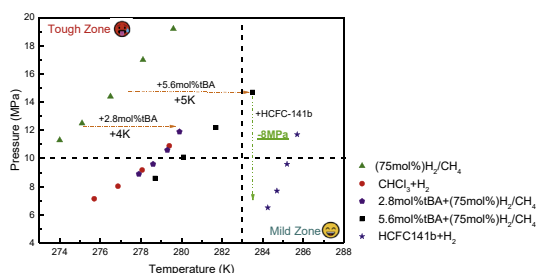
Gas hydrate

Hybrid energy storage

Hydrate phase equilibrium

Raman spectroscopy

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



ABSTRACT

Hydrogen storage in clathrate hydrates is a promising approach for industry-scale utilizations. However, extreme operation conditions such as high pressure (about GPa) limit the development. In this work hydrogen hydrate phase equilibrium in addition of methane, tert-butyl alcohol (tBA), trichloromethane (CHCl₃) and 1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane (HCFC-286 K, which including 21 points in total.

H₂O form metastable hydrate cages via hydrogen bonds, then form stable sII hydrates with the help of CH₄. Hydrate-based hydrogen storage capacity in 5.6 mol%HCFC-141 b-water mixture could reach 46 V/V (0.36 wt%) at 273 K and 10 MPa. Combining with chemical energy of HCFC-141 b, this work achieved high capacity of hydrogen and chemical energy storage in gas hydrate at mild conditions. This study will provide guidance on hydrate-chemical hybrid hydrogen storage technology, and leads to the next generation of hybrid hydrate-based hydrogen technology in the future.

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Gas hydrates is clathrate compound formed by water (host molecule) and gas (guest molecule) under high pressure and low temperature. Gas hydrates reservoir is a promising energy resource, exploration and gas production of it has been studied [1,2]. Meanwhile gas hydrate is a good energy material, hydrate-based technology has been applied on gas storage [3] and hydrogen purification from syngas [4,5]. Hydrogen storage in clathrate hydrates is a promising hydrogen storage technology with large scale industrial application prospects [6–9]. For further improving hydrogen storage properties, there are three generations of hydrate-based hydrogen storage technology have been developed. The first generations was using hydrogen hydrate (structure II) as hydrogen storage material. Mao et al. [10,11] reported hydrogen storage capacity could reach 5.26 wt% when hydrogen formation at 180–220 MPa and 300 K, which is higher than 2020 DOE's target (4.5 wt%).

The second generation was using energy-free liquid or solid additives in hydrate-based hydrogen storage, aiming to lower hydrate phase equilibrium conditions. Weissman et al. [12] studied 5.56 mol% tetrahydrofuran (THF)+ hydrogen + water hydrate forming at 274 K, 6.89 MPa and 274 K, 11 MPa, hydrogen storage capacity was lower than 1 wt% and hydrogen only occupied 5¹² cage of the gas hydrate. Liu et al. [13] using Ab initio molecular dynamic simulation studied cage occupation of H₂ and THF in H₂+THF hydrate at 140 K, and theoretical hydrogen storage could reach 1.6 wt% and 3.8 wt% by calculation. Di Profio et al. [14] using THF reverse micelles to enhance the kinetics of the formation process and assist clathrate formation, hydrogen capacity could reach 0.5 wt% within 28 min. Kaur et al. [15] examines the host-guest interactions in H₂-THF mix hydrate by computational study which proves H₂ molecules can be occupied in the hexakaidecahedral cages along with THF as well as single occupied in small cages. Trueba et al. [16,17] studied tetrabutylammonium bromide (TBAB) and tetrabutylammonium fluoride (TBAF) thermodynamically promote hydrate-based hydrogen storage, hydrogen capacity are lower than 0.1 wt%.

The third generation was using flammable gas molecules as promoters in hydrate-based hydrogen storage, aiming to increase totally energy storage density. Veluswamy et al. [18,19] studied propane promoting hydrate-based hydrogen storage and tested hydrate phase equilibrium of hydrogen-propane binary hydrate. Matsumoto et al. [20] using in-situ Raman spectra studied methane promoting hydrate-based hydrogen storage, maximum hydrogen storage capacity achieved 0.31 wt% at 263 K and 70 MPa. Zhang et al. [21] studied growth of H₂ + CH₄ binary hydrates via molecular dynamic simulation, results shown that the solubility and diffusivity of guest molecules especially CH₄ dominate the growth process.

However, hydrogen storage capacity of the second and third generations hydrate-based hydrogen storage technology still quite low in ambient temperature and low pressure (lower than 25 MPa). Aiming to lower hydrate formation condition and increase hydrogen energy storage capacity simultaneously, this paper proposes a novel approach that using materials containing chemical hydrogen energy as hydrate

formation promoters. In this work hydrogen hydrate phase equilibrium in addition of methane + tert-butyl alcohol (tBA), trichloromethane (CHCl₃) and 1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane (HCFC-141 b) were tested, and enclathration mechanism of hydrogen + methane + tBA were studied via Raman spectroscopy. This study will provide guidance on hydrate-chemical hybrid hydrogen storage technology, and leads to the next generation of hybrid hydrate-based hydrogen technology in the future.

Experimental apparatus of hydrate phase equilibrium were detailed described in previous work [22–25]. The key parts of this apparatus is a 300 mL stirred high pressure vessel with a cold bath to control temperature. Two thermocouples monitored temperature of gas and liquid phase inside the vessel. A pressure sensor measured pressure of the apparatus. All data were recorded by Agilent 34970 A data logger. Experimental method of hydrate phase equilibrium is like previous work [22,23]. Tert-butyl alcohol (tBA, >98%, Jiangsu Yonghua Chemical Technology Co.) was diluted as 2.8 mol% tBA (aq) and 5.6 mol% tBA (aq), trichloromethane (CHCl₃, >98% Guangzhou Chemical Reagent Co.) and 1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane (HCFC-141 b, >98% Pujiang Jietong Environmental Protection Technology Co.) were mixture with DI water to 5.6 mol% CHCl₃-water mixture and 5.6 mol% HCFC-141 b-water mixture respectively. 200 mL experimental solution (or mixture) was inhaled into the vessel, and then tested gas was pumped into vessel to the desired pressure. After that started stirrer (about 600 rpm) and temperature control. The temperature control program was as following: Firstly, cooling down with a rate of 3 K/h to hydration formation region and constant temperature about 3 h for hydrate formation, then heat up with 0.1 K/h. Monitored pressure change of hydrate dissociation line, change the heating rate to 0.025 K/h when the pressure drop of hydrate formation line and hydrate dissociation line in P-T curve was smaller than 0.5 MPa. The intersection point of the hydrate formation line and hydrate dissociation line in P-T curve was considered to the hydrate phase equilibrium points.

Hydrate-based hydrogen storage of experiments of H₂ storage in 5.6 mol% HCFC-141 b-water mixture used same apparatus but with stirred speed of 300 rpm. Experiment process was described as follows: Firstly, washing the vessel with DI water. After that cooling the vessel to 270 K–273 K, injected 100 mL 5.6 mol% HCFC-141 b-water mixture. Turn on the stirring (300 rpm) and keep the reaction vessel constant to 273 K, then injected H₂ into the reactor to the target pressure and started data collection. While $\frac{dP}{dt} < 0.01 \text{ MPa/s}$ considered that the reaction was complete and reached total hydrogen storage capacity.

Raman spectrum was conducted at ThermoFisher DXR2xi Raman spectroscopy. Laser wavelength was 532 nm, laser power was 9.5 mW, exposure time was 0.02 s. To precisely control test temperature, a FTIR6000 cold stage manufactured by LINKEN was used during the test. Test temperature of Raman spectra was –100 °C.

(1) Enclathration of tert-butyl alcohol in (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ hydrate

5.6 mol% tBA (aq) represents all 5¹²6⁴ cages were occupied by tBA molecule while forming sII gas hydrate, and 2.8 mol% tBA (aq) represents half of 5¹²6⁴ cages were occupied by tBA molecule while forming sII gas hydrate. Hydrate phase equilibrium data of (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄+water and (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄+tBA (aq) are demonstrated in Table 1 and Fig. 1.

Fig. 1 and Table 1 shown that comparing to hydrate phase equilibrium line of (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ +water, 5.6 mol% tBA and 2.8 mol% tBA shifted the hydrate phase equilibrium line of (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ about 4 K and 5 K towards higher temperature, respectively. Increasing concentration of tBA from 0 mol % to 2.8 mol%, hydrate formation is significantly thermodynamically enhanced (Fig. 1). While tBA concentration continually increasing from 2.8 mol% to 5.6 mol%, hydrate phase equilibrium line shifted 1 K towards higher temperature. This phenomenon indicated that existence of tBA molecule could help gas molecules and water to clathrate gas hydrate.

In order to explore the mechanism of tBA thermodynamics promoting the formation of hydrogen hydrate, Raman spectra of tBA and tBA solutions at −100 °C were conducted and results shown in Fig. 2. Firstly, the characteristic peaks of C–C bonds stretching vibration with Raman shifts of 500 cm^{−1}–1500 cm^{−1} are consistent for both tBA and tBA solutions at −100 °C, which indicates that the molecular structure of tBA has not changed in tBA solution. Secondly, the C–H stretching vibration peak of Raman shift 2800 cm^{−1}–2950 cm^{−1} is highly coincident with the C–H vibration peak of alkane molecules such as methane in hydrate cages [26]. It was found that for the tBA of −100 °C, C–H vibration peaks of 5.6 mol%tBA (aq) and 2.8 mol%tBA (aq) in the range of 2800 cm^{−1}–2950 cm^{−1} were slightly shifted to low Raman shift direction by about 30 cm^{−1}. This phenomenon is highly consistent with the C–H bond Raman shift phenomenon when alkanes such as methane form gas hydrates. Finally, the change in the –OH vibration peak in the region indicated by the green dashed line

in Fig. 2 shows that the water molecules form a cage structure (hydrate or ice) at low temperature in the tBA solution. Based on the above three characteristics of Raman spectra, it is concluded that tBA affect H-bond of water molecule, induce water molecule to form clathrate cages which leads to the change of –OH characteristic peaks. At the same time the movement of tBA molecules from bulk solution into the hydrate cages participates in the formation of hydrates, resulting in the change of C–H bonds vibration peaks.

Combining the conclusion of the differences between Raman spectra of tBA and tBA solutions (Fig. 2) and the results of Kim et al. [27], the mechanism of tBA molecule thermodynamically promote formation of (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ hydrate is shown in Fig. 3: Firstly tBA acts as guest molecule induces water molecules forming metastable 5¹²6⁴ cages (Fig. 3a) through H-bond between water and hydroxyl groups of tBA. And then with the help of methane molecule, stable sII hydrate are formed (Fig. 3b). Lastly hydrogen molecules move into hydrate phase (Fig. 3c). It is the core process that tBA forms metastable 5¹²6⁴ cages thermodynamically promoted (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ hydrate formation.

(2) Thermodynamically promotion of 1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane and trichloromethane

In order to further reduce the pressure of hydrate-based hybrid hydrogen storage, the thermodynamically promotion effect of 1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane (HCFC-141 b) and chloroform (CHCl₃) on hydrate based hydrogen storage was studied. Halogen group (–Cl or –F) in halo hydrocarbons enhances the van der Waals force between guest molecules and water. Hydrate phase equilibrium data of CHCl₃+H₂+water and HCFC141b + H₂+water are demonstrated in Table 2, Table 3 and Fig. 4.

Table 2 and Fig. 4 shown hydrate phase equilibrium of CHCl₃+H₂ hydrate in the range of 275 K–280 K, 7 MPa–11 MPa, which is significant lower than hydrogen hydrate [28]. Fig. 4 shown that compared with (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ hydrate phase equilibrium line, CHCl₃+H₂ hydrate phase equilibrium line shifts about 5 K toward higher temperature. The molecular size of CHCl₃ is similar to methane, the difference is three Cl atoms replaced three H atoms in CH₄ molecules. Three –Cl groups in CHCl₃ influence the hydrogen bond among water molecules and affects the H-bond of H–O–H which induce and change the order of hydrogen bonding between water molecules. The van der Waals force between CHCl₃ molecules and water molecules are reinforced. As consequences of that, it is thermodynamically easier for CHCl₃ to form a hydrate cage with water and promote the formation of hydrogen hydrate.

Table 3 and Fig. 4 shown that hydrate phase equilibrium of HCFC141b + H₂ hydrate which in the range of 284 K–286 K, 5 MPa–12 MPa, is significant lower than hydrogen hydrate [28]. Fig. 4 shown that compared with (75 mol%)H₂/CH₄ hydrate phase equilibrium line, HCFC141b + H₂ hydrate phase equilibrium line shifts about 10 K toward higher temperature. In contrast, the hydrate phase equilibrium line of HCFC-141 b + H₂ hydrate is more sensitive to temperature change. A small increase in temperature can cause a significant increase in phase equilibrium pressure. The above results indicate that

System components	Temperature (K)	Pressure (MPa)
(75 mol%)H ₂ /CH ₄ +water	274.0 ± 0.1 K	11.3 ± 0.1 MPa
	275.1 ± 0.1 K	12.5 ± 0.1 MPa
	276.5 ± 0.1 K	14.4 ± 0.1 MPa
	278.1 ± 0.1 K	17.0 ± 0.1 MPa
	279.6 ± 0.1 K	19.2 ± 0.1 MPa
(75 mol%)H ₂ /CH ₄ +5.6 mol% tBA (aq)	278.7 ± 0.1 K	8.6 ± 0.1 MPa
	280.1 ± 0.1 K	10.1 ± 0.1 MPa
	281.7 ± 0.1 K	12.2 ± 0.1 MPa
	283.5 ± 0.1 K	14.7 ± 0.1 MPa
	277.9 ± 0.1 K	8.9 ± 0.1 MPa
(75 mol%)H ₂ /CH ₄ +2.8 mol% tBA (aq)	278.6 ± 0.1 K	9.6 ± 0.1 MPa
	279.3 ± 0.1 K	10.6 ± 0.1 MPa
	279.9 ± 0.1 K	11.9 ± 0.1 MPa



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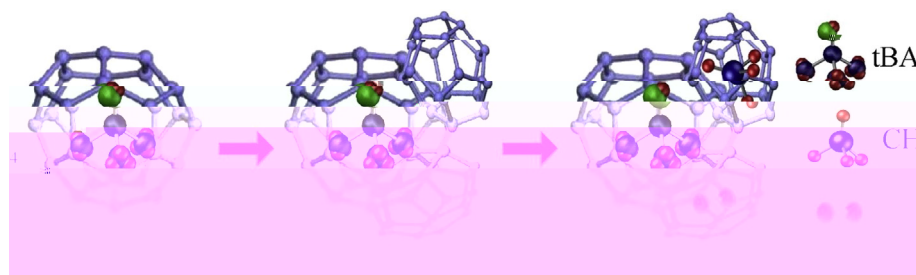


Fig. 5. The commonality of HCFC-141 b and CHCl_3 is both have three halogenated groups linked to one carbon atom. The differences are follows: (1) There are one $-\text{F}$ group and 2 $-\text{Cl}$ groups in HCFC-141 b while there are three $-\text{Cl}$ groups in CHCl_3 , and (2) there is one more carbon in HCFC-141 b than that in CHCl_3 . Concluding from the results it is considered that guest molecular with $-\text{F}$ group is better than with $-\text{Cl}$ on thermodynamically promoting hydrate-based hydrogen storage, and promoter molecular length at C2–C4 are preferred.

Temperature (K)	Pressure (MPa)
279.4 ± 0.1 K	10.9 ± 0.1 MPa
278.1 ± 0.1 K	9.2 ± 0.1 MPa
276.9 ± 0.1 K	8.0 ± 0.1 MPa
275.7 ± 0.1 K	7.1 ± 0.1 MPa

Temperature (K)	Pressure (MPa)
284.3 ± 0.1 K	6.5 ± 0.1 MPa
284.7 ± 0.1 K	7.7 ± 0.1 MPa
285.2 ± 0.1 K	9.6 ± 0.1 MPa
285.7 ± 0.1 K	11.7 ± 0.1 MPa

The commonality of HCFC-141 b and CHCl_3 is both have three halogenated groups linked to one carbon atom. The differences are follows: (1) There are one $-\text{F}$ group and 2 $-\text{Cl}$ groups in HCFC-141 b while there are three $-\text{Cl}$ groups in CHCl_3 , and (2) there is one more carbon in HCFC-141 b than that in CHCl_3 . Concluding from the results it is considered that guest molecular with $-\text{F}$ group is better than with $-\text{Cl}$ on thermodynamically promoting hydrate-based hydrogen storage, and promoter molecular length at C2–C4 are preferred.

(3) Hydrogen and chemical energy storage in HCFC141b + H_2 hydrate

Fig. 5 shown that hydrate-based hydrogen storage capacity of HCFC-141 b + H_2 hydrate in different periods which at 273 K and initial pressure of 12 MPa, 10 MPa, 8 MPa and 6 MPa. For hydrate-based hydrogen storage system at 273 K as well as initial pressure of 12 MPa and 10 MPa, the hydrogen storage capacity could reach one third of the total capacity within 4 h. The gas storage capacity of the system in the first 4 h which at

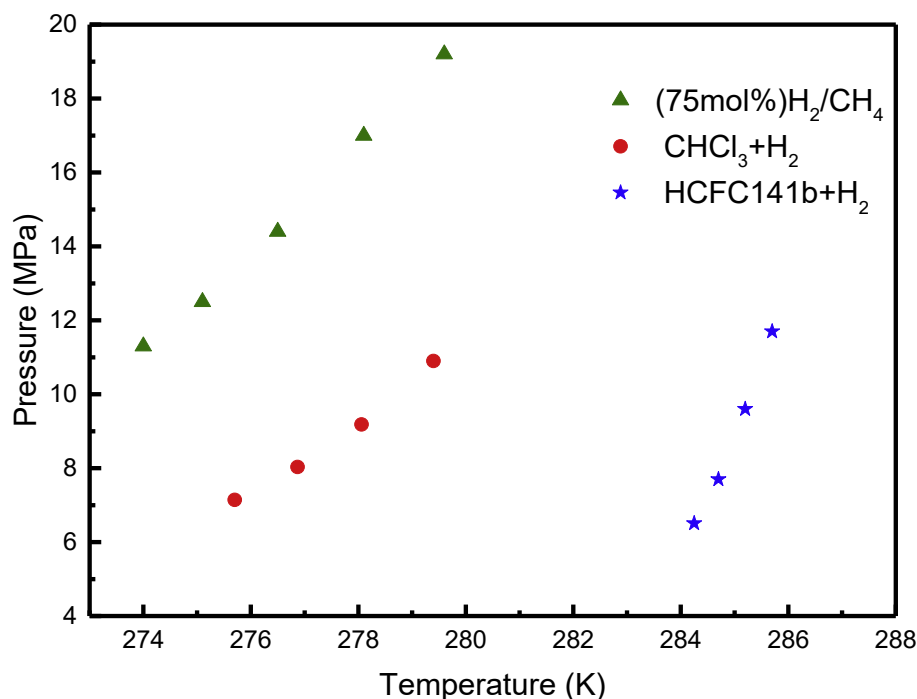


Fig. 5. The commonality of HCFC-141 b and CHCl_3 is both have three halogenated groups linked to one carbon atom. The differences are follows: (1) There are one $-\text{F}$ group and 2 $-\text{Cl}$ groups in HCFC-141 b while there are three $-\text{Cl}$ groups in CHCl_3 , and (2) there is one more carbon in HCFC-141 b than that in CHCl_3 . Concluding from the results it is considered that guest molecular with $-\text{F}$ group is better than with $-\text{Cl}$ on thermodynamically promoting hydrate-based hydrogen storage, and promoter molecular length at C2–C4 are preferred.

273 K with initial pressure of 12 MPa is about 0%, 24% and 39% higher than that of at 273 K with initial pressure of 10 MPa, 8 MPa and 6 MPa respectively. The reason for this phenomenon is that the pressure driving force of 12 MPa system and 10 MPa system is the largest and the hydrogen partial pressure is the highest at the beginning of hydrate formation. Hydrogen molecule rapidly enters into the structure II hydrate cage which have been formed by HCFC-141 b molecule and water molecule, so the gas storage capacity increased to a certain extent compared with the other two lower pressure systems.

In the period of 4–12 h, the hydrogen storage capacity of 5.6 mol% HCFC-141 b water mixture hydrogen storage system at 273 K with initial pressure of 12 MPa and 10 MPa increased more than that of with initial pressure of 8 MPa and 6 MPa. After occupying the emptied 5^{12} cages of sII hydrate hydrogen molecules could migrate to $5^{12}6^4$ cages of sII hydrate due to the smaller molecules size. During the migration process the driving force of the systems with initial pressure of 8 MPa and 6 MPa is

lower than that of 12 MPa and 10 MPa. As the consequences hydrogen storage capacity in 4–12 h of the systems with initial pressure of 12 MPa and 10 MPa remain ahead of that with initial pressure of 8 MPa and 6 MPa. Table 4 shown that after 12 h hydrogen storage systems with initial pressure of 10 MPa has similar hydrogen storage properties comparing to higher pressure system, total hydrogen storage capacity could reach 46 V/V (0.36 wt%).

In this paper enclathration of methane + tert-butyl alcohol, 1,1-dichloro-1-fluoroethane and trichloromethane in hydrogen hydrates were studied. Methane + tert-butyl alcohol (tBA) as a chemical hydrogen storage could significantly thermodynamically enhanced hydrate-based hydrogen storage. 5.6 mol% tBA and 2.8 mol% tBA shifted hydrate phase equilibrium line of (75 mol%) H_2/CH_4 about 4 K and 5 K towards higher temperature, respectively. Raman spectra shows the thermodynamic promotion mechanism was that tBA and water molecules firstly form metastable clathrate cages through hydrogen bonds between hydroxyl groups, then form stable sII hydrates with the help of methane molecules and play a role in thermodynamic promoting the formation of hydrogen hydrates. Phase equilibrium line of hydrogen hydrate shifts 10 K in HCFC-141 b and 5 K in $CHCl_3$ toward higher temperature respectively comparing to (75 mol%) H_2/CH_4 hydrate, which are much milder than hydrogen hydrate phase equilibrium conditions. Besides guest molecular with -F group is better than with -Cl on thermodynamically promoting hydrate-based hydrogen storage. Hydrogen storage capacity of H_2 forming hydrate in 5.6 mol% HCFC-141 b water

mixture at 273 K and 10 MPa could reach 46 V/V (0.36 wt%). Combing with chemical energy of HCFC-141 b, this work achieved high capacity of hydrogen and chemical storage in gas hydrate at mild conditions.

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