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\*CORRESPONDENCE Yibo Zhou, ⊠ zhouyb@iiem.ac.cn

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# Effect of sodium dodecyl sulphate on the rheological and carbon sequestration properties of cemented paste backfill with CO<sub>2</sub> injection

#### Zhuo Shen and Yibo Zhou 🝺 \*

Information Institute of the Ministry of Emergency Management of the People's Republic of China, Beijing, China

Cemented paste backfill (CPB) is a technology that has a positive impact on both the environment and mining safety. In recent years, it has been widely applied and developed. To improve the carbon sequestration efficiency of CPB, air-entraining agent addition to CO<sub>2</sub>-injected CPB (CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB) has been proposed. However, the influence of air-entraining agents on the rheological and carbon sequestration properties of CO2-CPB has not been investigated to date. Therefore, sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS), an air-entraining agent, was selected in this study, and the rheological and carbon sequestration properties of CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB added with SDS were comprehensively investigated.  $CO_2$ -CPB samples with 0.0‰, 0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰ SDS were prepared, and the rheological parameters (yield stress and viscosity) were tested after curing for 0, 0.25, 1, and 2 h. Gas content testing, microscopic analysis, and zeta potential measurements were performed. The results show that SDS addition decreased the yield stress and viscosity of CO2-CPB at 0-1 h; however, the yield stress and viscosity increased at 2 h. SDS addition significantly improved the carbon sequestration performance of CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB. The findings of this study have important implications for carbon sequestration development in CPB and solid waste utilisation.

#### KEYWORDS

tailings, carbon sequestration, sodium dodecyl sulphate, cemented paste backfill, rheology, mining

# **1** Introduction

The mining industry provides the raw materials needed for industrial development, in turn providing important support for global economic growth (Carvalho, 2017; Farjana et al., 2019; Qi, 2020). Currently, the manufacturing industry still has a high demand for ores, and the mining industry has vast potential for future development (Hu et al., 2016; Sánchez and Hartlieb, 2020; Yilmaz, 2023). Mineral resource mining can lead to several environmental protection problems, such as land subsidence and tailing accumulation (Marimuthu et al., 2021; Mohsin et al., 2021; Song et al., 2023; Tuokuu et al., 2019).

With the gradual depletion of shallow, easy-to-mineralise ores, the environmental protection problems faced by deep mining are becoming increasingly significant. Cemented paste backfill (CPB) is gradually becoming the mainstream green mining method because



TABLE 1 Physical properties of the tailings.

Element /Unit	Gs/-	D <sub>10</sub> /µm	D <sub>30</sub> /µm	D <sub>50</sub> /µm	D <sub>60</sub> /µm
Silica tailings	2.7	1.7	9.8	23.9	32.1
Ten-mine average tailings		2.2	9.7	23.7	34.5

of its positive effects on roadway control, solid waste treatment, and ore recovery rate (Khandani et al., 2023; Sari et al., 2023; Sun et al., 2018). CPB, a backfill slurry composed of tailings, binders, water, and admixtures, has become the main management method for mine waste (Lu et al., 2024; Sheshpari, 2015; Wilson et al., 2018). CPB is filled into the underground mining area along with the pipeline to deal with solid waste and ensure roof plate stability. With the support of environmental awareness and national policies, backfill mining has gradually become safe, environmentally friendly, and efficient (Eker and Bascetin, 2022; Solismaa et al., 2021; Thompson et al., 2012; Yin et al., 2023).

With the development of global industry, a large amount of  $CO_2$  has been emitted into the atmosphere, resulting in climate change and even extreme natural disasters (Adedoyin et al., 2020; Cassia et al., 2018). Therefore, the rational storage of  $CO_2$  is an urgent research topic (Farajzadeh et al., 2020; Yamada, 2021). To reduce atmospheric  $CO_2$  concentrations,  $CO_2$  carbonation has been widely used to prepare new cement-based materials in recent years (Lippiatt et al., 2020; Ma et al., 2022; Olajire, 2013; Winnefeld et al., 2022). There is a large amount of waste space in mining goafs; therefore, carbon sequestration via mining backfill has become a popular research field (Ji and Yu, 2018; Uliasz-Bocheńczyk and

Mokrzycki, 2020). In the mining backfill process,  $CO_2$  is filled into the CPB materials to undergo mineralisation reactions and achieve  $CO_2$  sequestration in the CPB (Unluer, 2018; Wang et al., 2019; Xu and Ma, 2024).

Currently, there are two main backfill carbon sequestration process types. One is to conduct CO<sub>2</sub> to the mining goaf after the initial CPB solidification. Chen et al. (2022) simulated the engineering environment on backfill specimens using carbonation maintenance, compared and analysed the peak strength and hydration product differences between normal and carbonation maintenance specimens, and investigated the PH value of the carbonation degree of specimens of the two types of maintenance methods, which illustrates the effect of CPB carbon sequestration. The reaction rate can be increased by increasing the temperature and pressure. (Ćwik et al., 2018; Mo et al., 2016). found that a high temperature and pressure environment accelerated the CPB carbonation process; however, the increase of this type of method leads to construction management complexities and increased backfill costs, and the difference between the carbonation degree of specimens after carbonation conditioning and that of the natural conditioning may not be obvious. Another carbon sequestration method involves CO<sub>2</sub> injected into the CPB slurry. Ngo et al. (2023) used the bubbling method to prepare backfill specimens; that is, CO<sub>2</sub> was pumped into the slurry for 20 min and then placed into a mould for maintenance, along with the rheological properties of the slurry and the peak strength at different curing ages. They found that the viscosity of the slurry increased after CO<sub>2</sub> incorporation, which reinforced its early strength. However, for CO<sub>2</sub> carbonation, the abovementioned methods are limited in terms of time and efficiency. In other words, the carbon sequestration efficiency of CPB has not been fully utilised.

To improve the carbon sequestration efficiency and CPB time, we propose the addition of an air-entraining agent to a  $CO_2$ -injected CPB slurry ( $CO_2$ -CPB). Owing to the effect of the air-entraining agent, a large amount of  $CO_2$  exists in the form of small bubbles in the  $CO_2$ -CPB, which can not only effectively increase the contact area between  $CO_2$  and the CPB slurry, making carbon sequestration more efficient, but these small bubbles can also exist in the entire CPB transportation and curing processes, greatly extending the  $CO_2$ mineralisation time. Furthermore, the presence of small bubbles in the CPB slurry can play a role in ball lubrication, which significantly improves the slurry's flow performance (Hefni and Hassani, 2021; Ouyang et al., 2008; Yang et al., 2022). However, to date, there are no reported studies on the influence of air-entraining agents on the rheological and carbon-sequestration properties of  $CO_2$ -CPB.

There are many types of air-entraining agents for cementbased materials, such as rosin resin, alkyl aromatic sulfonate, and soap (Gagné, 2016; Markiv, 2022; Mendes et al., 2017; Zhou et al., 2024). According to the previous research literature (Kundu et al., 2023; Kundu et al., 2024; Yang et al., 2022), sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) is a kind of air entraining agent that is easy to obtain and has excellent gas entraining effect. Therefore, to address the aforementioned technical gaps, the yield stress and viscosity of  $CO_2$ -CPB with SDS were experimentally investigated in this study. Additionally, the influence of the SDS on the carbon-sequestration efficiency of  $CO_2$ -CPB was investigated.

Element	CaO	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	MgO	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Others	Relative density/kg·m <sup>-3</sup>	Specific surface area/m <sup>2.</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup>
Type I silicate cement (%)	65.08	5.53	22.36	1.27	3.46	2.30	3,115	350





#### TABLE 3 Mix composition of the prepared specimens with curing information.

Specimen abbreviation	Binder Content (%)	Water/binder by weight	SDS content	Time (h)	Curing temperature (°C)			
Yield stress and viscosity development influenced by time								
CO2-CPB-Control	4.5	7.35	0.0‰	0, 0.25, 1, 2	20			
CO2-CPB-SDS	4.5	7.35	1.0‰	0, 0.25, 1, 2	20			
Effect of SDS content								
CO2-CPB-SDS-0.5	4.5	7.35	0.5‰	0, 0.25, 1, 2	20			
CO2-CPB-SDS-1.0	4.5	7.35	1.0‰	0, 0.25, 1, 2	20			
CO2-CPB-SDS-1.5	4.5	7.35	1.5‰	0, 0.25, 1, 2	20			

# 2 Experimental program

### 2.1 Materials and mixture proportioning

#### 2.1.1 Materials

The materials used in this study are tailings, binder, airentraining agent, and water.

#### 2.1.1.1 Tailings

The physical and chemical properties of natural tailings may vary across mines owing to differences in the extracted ore type and mineral processing (Edraki et al., 2014; Falagán et al., 2017; Guo et al., 2023). In this study, silica tailings (STs), containing 99.8 wt% silicon dioxide (SiO<sub>2</sub>) and stable in nature, which can significantly reduce the test errors, were used. The particle size



Yield stress development influenced by CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB time with and without 1.0‰ SDS.



distribution and physical properties of STs were basically the same as the average values of the tailings from ten mines in China, as shown in Figure 1; Table 1. The data information in Figure 1; Table 1 is obtained from the manufacturer, Beijing Silicon Industry Co., Ltd.

#### 2.1.1.2 Binder

Type I silicate cement is the most commonly used binder in mining owing to its good adaptability and stability (Ashraf et al., 2017; Gartner and Sui, 2018; Jiang et al., 2024). The hydration

reaction produces hydrated calcium silicate (C-S-H), calcium aluminate, and AFm (Abdel-Gawwad et al., 2018; Fang et al., 2023; Primus et al., 2019). Additionally, the hydration products harden for increase strength. Type I silicate cement was used in this study, and its specific mineral composition and properties obtained from the manufacturer (Shandong Jiuqi cement Co., Ltd.) are listed in Table 2.

#### 2.1.1.3 Air-entraining agent

In this study, SDS, an anionic surfactant with good foaming properties, was used as a test air-entraining agent (Reales et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2020). SDS addition produced numerous tiny bubbles in the CPB slurry. In the test, the SDS contents were 0.0‰, 0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰ of the weight of the newly mixed CPB slurry.

#### 2.1.1.4 Water

Ordinary tap water was used to make the backfill slurry.

#### 2.1.2 Specimen preparation and mix proportions

The tailings, cement, and water were mixed in a mixer for 5 min to reach a homogeneous state, and then poured into a closed mixer, as shown in Figure 2. Subsequently, CO<sub>2</sub> gas from a 6-8 MPa gas pressure cylinder was injected into the closed mixer for air removal; when the alcohol lamp was turned off, the closed mixer was filled with CO2. Then, the CO2 injection was stopped, and a specific amount of SDS solution was injected. After SDS injection, CO<sub>2</sub> was injected at a rate of 1 L/min, and the CO<sub>2</sub> recovery device was turned on. Simultaneously, the mixer was started and stirred at 200 rpm for 2 min to obtain a CPB slurry with CO<sub>2</sub> bubbles, which was used for subsequent rheological and carbon sequestration tests. During mixing, the CO<sub>2</sub> gas was at normal atmospheric pressure. A flowchart of the mixing of CO<sub>2</sub> bubbles into the CPB is shown in Figure 2. The mixing ratios, SDS contents, curing times, and temperatures are listed in Table 3.

#### 2.2 Test methods

#### 2.2.1 Yield stress test

A vane shear test was conducted to measure the yield stress of the slurry (Wu and Fall 2024). A 27-WF1730/4 instrument model was used, which is easy to operate. In this study, A No. 1 torsion spring and a cross-shaped plate head with a radius of 12.5 mm and height of 25 mm were used. The vane shear test procedure was as follows:

- (a) Clean the cross-plate head of the instrument and set the dial to zero.
- (b) The height of the cross-plate is adjusted such that the bottom of the cross-plate head is immersed from the centre of the sample surface until the top of the cross-plate head is 10-20 mm below the sample surface.
- (c) After 30 s of resting, the pointer reading of the dial is recorded as the initial angle.
- (d) Start the power supply and the inner dial rotates at a fixed speed of 0.18 rpm.
- (e) When the strain indicator is separated from the pointer, the sample fails. The test is stopped, the maximum torque is





recorded, and the yield stress of the sample is automatically calculated using a calculation program.

#### 2.2.2 Viscosity test

Rotational viscometers are widely used for non-Newtonian fluid viscosity measurements owing to their simplicity, speed, and accuracy (Carnogursky et al., 2023). In this study, a digital rotational viscometer (model DV-E, Brookfield, United States) was used to test the slurry viscosity. The rotor model selected for the experiment was an RV5 with a speed of 50 rpm, which can maintain the measured torque percentage of the slurry in the range of 10%–90% and ensure the accuracy of the obtained viscosity values.

#### 2.2.3 Gas content test

In this study, the slurry gas content affected the rheological properties and efficiency of the  $CO_2$  mineralisation reaction; therefore, a digital display gas content tester (CA-3) was used to measure the slurry gas content. The gas content was measured according to Chinese standard JGJ/T 70-2009. The gas content of each group of samples was tested three times, and the test results are expressed as the arithmetic average of the three measurements.

#### 2.2.4 Microstructural analysis

In this study, a thermogravimetric analyser (Science TG-DTA8122) was used for the thermogravimetric (TG) and differential



thermogravimetric (DTG) analysis of the specimens. Before testing, all specimens were dried at a temperature of 45°C until the sample quality remained constant. During the test, the sample was programmed to heat up in a nitrogen environment (300 mL/min) at a temperature increase of 10°C/min, and the test temperature range was from room temperature to 1,000°C.

#### 2.2.5 Zeta potential measurement

A Zetasizer Nano device was used to measure the zeta potential of the sample, which is calculated by determining the electrophoretic mobility and then applying Henry's equation to calculate the zeta potential. Electrophoretic mobility was obtained by performing electrophoretic experiments on the sample and measuring the velocity of the particles using a laser Doppler velocimeter (LDV) (Clogston and Patri, 2011). The higher the absolute value of the measured zeta potential, the greater the repulsive force between the particles (Roshani and Fall, 2020). In this study, the zeta potential was tested at an ambient temperature of 20°C. Zeta potential measurements were performed at least three times for each sample to minimise errors in the results.

## **3** Results

# 3.1 Rheological property development influenced by CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB time with and without SDS

The yield stress and viscosity development influenced according to  $CO_2$ -CPB time with and without 1.0‰ SDS are shown in Figures 3, 4, respectively. A sample without SDS was designated as the control sample.

According to the results shown in Figure 3, the yield stress for all specimens exhibits a gradual increase between 0 and 2 h. This gradually increasing yield stress is correlated with the cement hydration degree in the slurry, which increased over time. Figure 5 shows the TG/DTG curves of specimens without SDS after curing for 15 min and 2 h. As can be seen, all samples have three distinct weight loss peaks between 60 and 180, 380–480, and 600°C–800°C. The weight loss occurring at 60°C–180°C is mainly due to the dehydration reactions of the hydrates, such as C-S-H and ettringite (Rocha et al., 2015; Zhou et al., 2022). The apparent peaks in the second stage (380°C–480°C) are attributed to the de-hydroxylation of the calcium hydroxide (CH) (Gabrovšek et al., 2006; Yilmaz and Fall 2017), as shown in Equation 1. The weight loss in the last stage (600°C–800°C) is due to the decomposition reaction of calcium carbonate (Gaviria et al., 2018; Wang et al., 2024), as shown in Equation 2. As can be seen from Figure 5, all three peaks of the 2-h curve are higher than those of the 15-min curve, indicating that more hydration products (C-S-H, ettringite, and CH) and calcium carbonate are produced at 2 h. In other words, from 0 to 2 h, the products in the sample gradually increased, which led to an increase in the friction resistance between particles, in turn increasing the yield stress (Haiqiang et al., 2016; Malkin et al., 2017).

$$Ca(OH)_2 \rightarrow CaO + H_2O$$
 (1)

$$CaCO_3 \rightarrow CaO + CO_2$$
 (2)

Additionally, as shown in Figure 3, SDS addition reduced the yield stress of the CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB sample for 0-1 h. The lower yield stress of the SDS sample compared to that of the control specimen can be demonstrated by the gas content parameter. The gas content development of the CO2-CPB samples with and without SDS during 0-2 h is shown in Figure 6. As can be seen, the gas content of the CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB sample without SDS remains at approximately 2.2% from 0 to 2 h, whereas SDS addition increases the initial gas content to 4.6%. This increase in gas content is due to the enhanced effect of SDS on the surface activity of the slurry; that is, SDS addition causes the slurry to introduce more CO2 small bubbles during mixing, resulting in an increase in the gas content of the slurry (Li et al., 2023; Pham and Cramer, 2021; Tunstall et al., 2021). Moreover, as shown in Figure 6, the gas content of CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB with SDS gradually decreases from 0 to 1 h because of the reaction of CO<sub>2</sub> gas with the CH generated by cement hydration to produce calcium carbonate (Chen et al., 2022), as shown in Equations 3, 4. In other words, the CO<sub>2</sub> gas in the sample was consumed and converted into solid calcium carbonate particles, resulting in a lower gas content in the slurry. Although the CO<sub>2</sub> gas in the SDS sample was gradually consumed, the gas content of the SDS specimen remained higher than that of the control specimen from 0 to 1 h. However, after 2 h, the gas content of the SDS sample decreased to 2.21% (almost the same as that of the control sample), indicating that the CO<sub>2</sub> gas in the SDS sample was completely consumed at 2 h.

$$CO_2 + H_2O \to H_2CO_3 \tag{3}$$

$$H_2CO_3 + Ca(OH)_2 \rightarrow CaCO_3 + 2H_2O \tag{4}$$

Therefore, according to Figure 6, from 0 to 1 h, the SDS sample exhibits a higher gas content than the control sample, that is, there are more small  $CO_2$  bubbles in the SDS sample, which act as ball lubrication, resulting in a lower yield stress in the SDS specimen (Samson et al., 2017; Yang et al., 2022; Zuo et al., 2023). However, the yield stress of the SDS specimen at 2 h (Figure 3) was higher than that of the control specimen, which does not correspond to a nearly identical gas content at 2 h, as shown in Figure 6. From the zeta





0.016 Control SDS 0.014 viscosity increase rate 0.012 0.010 (Pa-s/minute) 0.008 0.006 Average 0 004 0.002 0.000 0-0.25h 0.25-1h 1**-**2h FIGURE 10 Viscosity increase rate of the CO2-CPB samples with and without SDS for 0-2 h.

potential results at 2 h (Figure 7), the absolute zeta potential value of the SDS specimen was higher than that of the control specimen, indicating greater repulsion between particles in the SDS sample (Elakneswaran et al., 2009; Xiapeng et al., 2019). Previous studies have shown that a greater repulsive force between particles reduces the frictional resistance during flow, thereby reducing the yield stress of the slurry (Simon and Grabinsky, 2013; Xiapeng et al., 2019; Zhou and Fall 2022). Therefore, neither the gas content nor the zeta potential at 2 h could be responsible for the higher yield stress of the SDS sample compared with that of the control sample.

Figure 8 shows the TG/DTG results for the 2-h specimens with and without SDS. As can be seen, the first weight loss peak (60°C–180°C) of the SDS specimen (6.65% weight loss) is higher than that of the control specimen (3.81% weight loss), and the calcium carbonate weight loss peak (600°C–800°C) is also higher

for the former (6.35% weight loss) than for the latter (1.70% weight loss). A greater weight loss indicates that more products (such as C-S-H and calcium carbonate) were generated in the SDS sample. The formation of more C-S-H in the SDS sample is attributed to the presence of CO<sub>2</sub>, which consumed the hydration product CH, causing the hydration reaction of the cement (Equations 5, 6) to proceed. On the other hand, as mentioned earlier, the presence of CO<sub>2</sub> bubbles in the SDS sample led to the formation of more calcium carbonate.

$$2(3CaO \cdot SiO_2)(C_3S) + 6H_2O \rightarrow 3CaO \cdot 2SiO_2 \cdot 3H_2O(C - S - H) + 3Ca(OH)_2$$
(5)

$$2(2CaO \cdot SiO_2)(C_2S) + 4H_2O \rightarrow 3CaO \cdot 2SiO_2 \cdot 3H_2O(C - S - H) + Ca(OH)_2$$
(6)



FIGURE 11

Yield stress of the CO $_2\text{-}\mathsf{CPB}$  with 0.0‰, 0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰ SDS for 0, 0.25, 1, and 2 h.



Therefore, the formation of more products in the SDS specimen after 2 h resulted in a higher yield stress than in the control specimen (Figure 3). In summary, compared with the control specimen, there were two competitive factors in the yield stress of the SDS specimen at 2 h: the yield stress reduction effect caused by the increase in the repulsion force between particles and the increase effect caused by the increase in products. According to these results, it can be inferred that the influence of the former is

weaker than that of the latter; therefore, the yield stress of the SDS specimen at 2 h is higher than that of the control specimen.

Furthermore, as can be seen from the viscosity results in Figure 4, the viscosity increases over time for both the control and SDS samples. This viscosity increase over time is due to the hydration reaction progression, that is, the increase in hydration products over time, resulting in greater sample density and frictional resistance between particles, which in turn leads to a tendency for viscosity to increase (Ouattara et al., 2017; Xiao et al., 2021). Additionally, as shown in Figure 4, from 0 to 1 h, the viscosity of the SDS specimen is lower than that of the control specimen. This lower viscosity is due to the larger gas content value shown in Figure 6, that is, the higher the gas content, the lower the slurry density and thus the lower the viscosity (Cao et al., 2022; Şahin et al., 2023). However, the higher viscosity of the SDS sample compared with the control sample at 2 h is due to the formation of more products (such as C-S-H and calcium carbonate) in the SDS sample, as mentioned earlier. In other words, more products lead to a higher sample density, which leads to higher viscosity.

It is worth noting that from 0 to 2 h, both the yield stress and viscosity of the SDS specimen increased at a higher rate compared with the control specimen, as shown in Figures 9, 10. For the SDS samples, this higher yield stress or viscosity growth rate was due to the coincidence of these two factors. First, as previously mentioned, the presence of  $CO_2$  in the SDS sample carbonates CH and promotes the hydration reaction of the cement, leading to the formation of more products and a higher rheological parameter growth rate. Second,  $CO_2$  consumption in the SDS samples leads to a decrease in the internal gas content, resulting in an increase in slurry density, which in turn leads to a larger slurry rheological parameter growth rate than in the control samples.

# 3.2 Effect of SDS content on the CO<sub>2</sub>-CPB rheological properties

Figures 11, 12 show the effects of different SDS contents (0.0‰, 0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰) on the  $CO_2$ -CPB yield stress and viscosity, respectively. As can be seen, both the yield stress and viscosity increase from 0 to 2 h. The reason for rheological parameter increase with time has been mentioned previously and will not be discussed here for brevity.

Additionally, from 0 to 0.25 h in Figures 11, 12, both the yield stress and viscosity exhibit a decreasing trend as the SDS content increases from 0.0‰ to 1.0‰, which is responsible for the gas content variation in the slurry as the SDS content changes, as shown in Figure 13. As shown in Figure 13, for both the 0- and 0.25-h samples, the gas content exhibits an increasing trend as the SDS content increases from 0.0‰ to 1.0‰. As previously mentioned, a higher gas content leads to a lower slurry density, resulting in a lower yield stress and viscosity. Furthermore, this yield stress and viscosity decrease with increasing SDS content (0.0‰–1.0‰) can also be supported by the zeta potential, as shown in Figure 14. As can be seen, the absolute zeta potential value increases as the SDS content increases from 0.0‰ to 1.0‰, which, as mentioned before, leads to an increase in inter-particle repulsion, resulting in the decrease in yield stress and viscosity.





However, according to Figures 11, 12, as the SDS content increases from 1.0% to 1.5%, both the yield stress and viscosity of the 0- and 0.25-h samples show an increasing trend. This increasing trend is mainly attributed to the decrease in the gas content of the sample. As shown in Figure 13, as the SDS content increases from 1.0% to 1.5%, the gas content of the 0- and 0.25-h samples shows a decreasing trend, which, as mentioned before, leads to an increase in sample density, resulting in an increase in yield stress and viscosity. Furthermore, as the SDS content increases, the gas content in the slurry exhibits a trend of first increasing and then decreasing, which is consistent with the findings of previous studies (Yang et al., 2022).

In contrast, as shown in Figures 11, 12, samples with 1.0‰ SDS exhibit the highest yield stress and viscosity at 2 h, followed by samples with 0.5‰ and 1.5‰ SDS (similar values), while samples with 0.0‰ SDS exhibit the lowest yield stress and viscosity. This difference in yield stress and viscosity depends mainly on the difference in the amount of products formed in the sample. According to Figure 15, the height of the first and third weight loss peaks is in the following order: 1.0‰ SDS >1.5‰ SDS >0.5‰ SDS >0.0‰ SDS. This is in line with the C-S-H and calcium carbonate amounts in the specimen. As previously mentioned, a greater number of products in the slurry resulted in higher yield stress and viscosity.





# 3.3 Effect of SDS content on the carbon-sequestration property of the $CO_2$ -CPB

As previously mentioned, the calcium carbonate decomposition weight loss (600°C–800°C) can be measured via thermogravimetric experiments. Therefore, thermogravimetric analysis was adopted in this study to determine the  $CO_2$  uptake ratio of CPB. Based on previous studies (Chen et al., 2022; Moon and Choi, 2019; Park and Choi, 2021) and on the TG curves shown in Figure 16, the  $CO_2$  uptake ratio can be calculated as follows:

$$CO_2 \text{ uptake} = \frac{\Delta W_{600-800°c}}{\Delta W_{105°c}} \times 100\%$$
(7)

where  $\Delta W_{600-800^{\circ}C}$  represents the calcium carbonate decomposition weight loss, and  $\Delta W_{105 \circ C}$  represents the dry weight at 105°C.

The CO<sub>2</sub> uptake ratio of the samples with different SDS contents were calculated using Equation 7, as shown in Figure 17. As can be seen, the CO<sub>2</sub> uptake ratio of the samples with added SDS (0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰) is significantly higher than that of the sample without SDS addition (0.0‰). This significant increase in the CO<sub>2</sub> uptake ratio is due to the increase in the CO<sub>2</sub> gas content in the slurry caused by SDS addition. As more CO<sub>2</sub> bubbles react with





CH to form calcium carbonate, more  $CO_2$  is absorbed by the CPB slurry. Additionally, based on Figure 17, by comparing the results for samples with 0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰ SDS, it can be seen that the sample with 1.0‰ SDS has the highest  $CO_2$  uptake ratio, which is confirmed by the test results for the largest gas content of the sample with 1.0‰ SDS, as shown in Figure 13.

From the above analysis, it can be concluded that the  $CO_2$  uptake ratio increases significantly with SDS addition. This indicates that SDS can improve the carbon-sequestration efficiency of the mining backfill industry and has great application value and potential.

# 4 Discussion

Figure 18 shows the mechanism of SDS in  $CO_2$ -CPB. According to this figure, with the addition of SDS, the  $CO_2$  bubbles in the

sample significantly increased, which led to the reduction of yield stress and viscosity of the slurry, that is, the improvement of flow performance (Kim et al., 2021; Mendes et al., 2017). Moreover, the presence of SDS in the slurry led to the increase of the absolute value of zeta potential, that is, the increase of the repulsive force between particles, which also played a positive role in the flow performance of the slurry (Ibrahim and Meawad, 2022; Midekessa et al., 2020).

On the other hand, compared with the slurry without SDS, more  $CO_2$  in the slurry with SDS reacted with CH to form calcium carbonate, which significantly promoted the absorption of  $CO_2$  (Winnefeld et al., 2022; Zajac et al., 2021). This process also caused the hydration reaction to proceed forward to produce more hydration products. Over time, the consumption of  $CO_2$  and the increase in the number of hydration products in the SDS slurry led to an increase in yield stress and viscosity (Ahmed et al., 2009; Rubio-Hernández et al., 2020; Sultangaliyeva et al., 2020).

# **5** Conclusion

In this study, the influence of SDS on the rheological and carbon-sequestration properties of  $CO_2$ -injected CPB slurries were investigated. Based on the results, the main conclusions of this study can be summarized as follows.

- With or without SDS, the yield stress and viscosity of the samples showed a time-dependent increase from 0 to 2 h owing to the increase in products formed over time.
- (2) SDS addition reduced the yield stress and viscosity from 0 to 1 h, but increased the yield stress and viscosity at 2 h. This is mainly related to SDS addition, which resulted in an increase in the gas content from 0 to 1 h and an increase in the products formed at 2 h.
- (3) From 0 to 2 h, the yield stress and viscosity of the SDS specimens increased at a higher rate than those of the control specimen, which is related to the faster rate of product formation and gas content reduction of the SDS specimens compared to those of the control specimen.
- (4) At 0 and 0.25 h, the yield stress and viscosity decreased as the SDS content increased from 0.0‰ to 1.0‰. This is mainly attributed to the increase in the gas content of the slurry and the increase in the absolute zeta potential value. However, as the SDS content increased from 1.0‰ to 1.5‰, the yield stress and viscosity both increased, which is mainly due to the decrease in gas content caused by excessive SDS.
- (5) At 2 h, the order of yield stress and viscosity of the sample is as follows: 1.0‰ SDS >1.5‰ SDS ≈0.5‰ SDS >0.0‰ SDS. This mainly depended on the differences in the amounts of products formed in the samples.
- (6) The CO<sub>2</sub> uptake ratio of the sample with added SDS (0.5‰, 1.0‰, and 1.5‰) is significantly higher than that of the sample without SDS addition (0.0‰). This significant increase in the CO<sub>2</sub> uptake ratio is attributed to the increase in the CO<sub>2</sub> gas content in the slurry caused by SDS addition, which results in more CO<sub>2</sub> bubbles reacting with CH to form calcium carbonate.

These findings provide effective guidance for improving the carbon-sequestration efficiency of mine backfills and contribute to the promotion of green development in the mining industry.

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## Data availability statement

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/supplementary material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

# Author contributions

ZS: Conceptualization, Formal Analysis, Investigation, Methodology, Writing–original draft. YZ: Supervision, Validation, Writing–review and editing.

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# **Conflict of interest**

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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