

1 **Solid/CO₂ and solid/water interfacial tensions as a function of pressure, temperature,**
2 **salinity and mineral type: Implications for CO₂-wettability and CO₂ geo-storage**

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15 **Abstract:**

16

17 Wettability of CO₂/brine/mineral systems plays a significant role in the underground geological
18 storage of CO₂ as it governs the fluid flow and distribution mechanism within the porous
19 medium. Technically, wettability is influenced by CO₂ pressure, the temperature of the storage
20 formation, formation water salinity and the type of mineral under investigation. Although a
21 growing number of studies report wettability data for CO₂/water/mineral systems, yet the
22 factors responsible for wettability variation with pressure and temperature remain unclear. In
23 this work, we used the concept of surface energy to explain dependency of wettability on
24 pressure, temperature and salinity. Neumann's equation of state approach was used to compute
25 solid/CO₂ and solid/water interfacial energies using reliable contact angle and CO₂/brine
26 interfacial tension data from the literature at a wide range of operating conditions for quartz,
27 water-wet mica, oil-wet mica and high, medium and low-rank coals. Moreover, the all-
28 important question that why different minerals offer different wettability to CO₂/water systems
29 at the same pressure and temperature of investigation is addressed by comparing the interfacial
30 energies of the minerals. We found that for all minerals solid/CO₂ interfacial energy decreased
31 with pressure and increased with temperature, and solid/water interfacial energy decreased with
32 temperature except for quartz for which solid/water interfacial energy increased with
33 temperature. Furthermore, the solid/CO₂ interfacial energy was lowest for the oil-wet mica

34 surface and highest for quartz which is due to higher hydrophobicity of oil-wet mica surface.
35 The results of the study lead to a better understanding of the wetting phenomenon at the
36 CO₂/brine/mineral interface and thus contribute towards the better evaluation of geological
37 CO₂-storage processes.

38

39 **1. Introduction**

40 Carbon capture and storage in depleted hydrocarbon reservoirs or deep saline aquifers
41 contributes significantly towards the reduction of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions
42 (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2005). CO₂ is also injected into subsurface
43 reservoirs for enhanced oil and gas recovery (e.g. Blunt et al., 1993; Iglauer et al., 2013, 2016;
44 Lackner, 2003). In this context the wettability of CO₂-brine-mineral systems plays a crucial
45 role in deciding the fate of the injected CO₂ within the geological formation (Iglauer et al.,
46 2015a). The existing literature has reported experimental CO₂-wettability data as a function of
47 pressure, temperature and salinity for rock forming minerals such as quartz (Al-Yaseri et al.,
48 2016a; Saraji et al., 2014; Sarmadivaleh et al., 2015), mica (Arif et al., 2016a, b; Broseta et al.,
49 2012; Chiquet et al., 2007) and coals (Arif et al., 2016c; Shojai Kaveh et al., 2012; Siemons et
50 al., 2006). Further, molecular dynamics simulations also computed contact angles for CO₂-
51 brine-quartz systems (Chen et al., 2015; Iglauer et al., 2012; Javanbakht et al., 2015; Liu et al.,
52 2010; McCaughan et al., 2013). However, no significant attention has been given to evaluate
53 the factors which are responsible for wettability variation with pressure, temperature and
54 salinity despite the variations in trends observed in studies on CO₂ wettability of minerals (e.g.
55 θ increased in temperature for quartz/CO₂/brine, Al-Yaseri et al., 2016a and decreased with
56 temperature for mica/CO₂/brine and coal/CO₂/brine systems, Arif et al., 2016a,c).

57

58 Recently, a few studies attempted to explain the factors responsible for wettability variation.
59 For instance, Al-Yaseri et al. (2016b) reported that wettability of quartz/gas/brine systems is a
60 strong function of gas density and a mathematical correlation was developed to determine
61 contact angles from gas densities. However, the methodology was applicable to a limited set
62 of operating conditions only. Roshan et al. (2016) developed a physical model based the
63 concept of the diffuse double layer to provide a theoretical framework for changes observed in
64 wettability as a function of pressure, temperature and salinity and found that wettability is
65 strongly related to CO₂/water interfacial tensions and density changes. Ameri et al. (2013)
66 computed sandstone/CO₂ interfacial tension as a function of pressure using Neumann's
67 equation of state (Neumann et al., 1974) and found that the solid/CO₂ interfacial tension

68 decreased with pressure and they formulated that such change in solid surface energy is
69 responsible for wettability changes. Nevertheless, the factors responsible for wettability
70 variation with pressure, temperature and salinity remain unclear and require further attention.
71 Theoretically, it is well-established that the contact angle is a function of the interplay of the
72 three interfacial tensions (solid/CO₂, solid/brine and brine/CO₂) as related by Young-Laplace
73 equation below:

$$74 \quad \cos\theta = \frac{\gamma_{sc} - \gamma_{sw}}{\gamma_{cw}} \quad (1)$$

75 In equation (1), γ_{sc} , γ_{sw} and γ_{cw} denote solid/CO₂, solid/water and CO₂/water interfacial tensions
76 respectively. To assess the wettability dependence on these interfacial interactions, the
77 quantification of the three interfacial tensions (γ_{sc} , γ_{sw} and γ_{cw}) is essential. In this context,
78 CO₂/water interfacial tensions (γ_{cw}) can be determined experimentally (many studies reported
79 this data e.g. Arif et al., 2016a; Li et al., 2012; Lun et al., 2012), however, an independent
80 experimental measurement of solid/fluid interfacial tension is not possible because a solid
81 interface is very different from a fluid-fluid interface due to absence of mobility (Li and
82 Neumann, 1992). Consequently, the use of numerical/empirical techniques such as Neumann's
83 equation of state becomes essential (Neumann et al., 1974). They applied this method to
84 compute surface energies of low energy polymers (Neumann et al., 1974, Kwok and Neumann,
85 1999). We, thus, extend the use of Neumann's equation of state to compute mineral/CO₂ and
86 mineral/water interfacial tensions as a function of pressure, temperature, salinity and mineral
87 type. Essentially, three important issues are addressed in this work: 1) Computation of surface
88 energy of solid/CO₂ and solid/brine as a function of pressure, temperature and salinity, 2) How
89 these computed interfacial tensions explain the dependence of wettability on pressure,
90 temperature and salinity and 3) To answer a very important question, i.e. why different minerals
91 exhibit different wettability at the same operating conditions.

92 In this context, we used advancing and receding contact angle (θ_a and θ_r respectively) data for
93 CO₂/brine systems for quartz (from Al-Yaseri et al., 2016a), water-wet mica (from Arif et al.,
94 2016a; and the mica chosen is muscovite mica), oil-wet mica (from Arif et al., 2016b) and coal
95 (from Arif et al., 2016c) at a wide range of operating conditions and computed mineral/CO₂
96 and mineral/water interfacial tensions and analysed the associated trends. Our results depict
97 that mineral/CO₂ interfacial tension decreased with pressure and increased with temperature
98 for all minerals. However, mineral/water interfacial tension decreased with temperature for
99 mica and coals but increased with temperature for quartz. The computed data in this paper can
100 also be used to estimate contact angle from Young's equation at any pressure, temperature and

101 salinity using known values of surface energies. Finally, we conclude that the quantification of
 102 surface energies is not only helpful in understanding the CO₂/solid interactions but also
 103 adequately explain the factors influencing wettability and thus considerably improve the
 104 understanding of geological storage processes and provide independent estimates for surface
 105 energies for various other engineering applications.

106
 107

108 **2. Methodology**

109

110 We used the equation of state approach by Neumann (Neumann et al., 1974) to compute
 111 mineral/CO₂ and mineral/water surface energies for a wide range of operating conditions for
 112 quartz, water-wet mica, oil-wet mica, and coals of high, medium and low ranks. Following
 113 sections describe the methodology in detail.

114

115 **2.1. Contact angle data**

116 We selected the water advancing and receding contact angle (θ_a and θ_r) data from our previous
 117 publications (quartz: from Al-Yaseri et al., 2016a, water-wet mica from Arif et al., 2016a, and
 118 oil-wet mica from Arif et al., 2016b; high, medium and low rank coals: from Arif et al., 2016c;
 119 Table 1). Surface energy calculations require equilibrium contact angles (see detail in section
 120 2.2 below); these have been computed from Tadmor's empirical method (Tadmor, 2004, Table
 121 2). Tadmor's correlation allows the calculation of equilibrium contact angles using the
 122 corresponding values of advancing and receding contact angles. The equations are as follows:

123

$$124 \quad \theta_e = \arccos\left(\frac{\Gamma_A \cos \theta_A + \Gamma_R \cos \theta_R}{\Gamma_A + \Gamma_R}\right) \quad (2)$$

125 In equation (2), θ_e is the equilibrium contact angle while θ_A and θ_R are the advancing and
 126 receding contact angles respectively, whereas, Γ_R and Γ_A are defined as follows:

$$127 \quad \Gamma_R = \left(\frac{\sin^3 \theta_R}{2 - 3 \cos \theta_R + \cos^3 \theta_R}\right)^{1/3} \quad (3)$$

$$128 \quad \Gamma_A = \left(\frac{\sin^3 \theta_A}{2 - 3 \cos \theta_A + \cos^3 \theta_A}\right)^{1/3} \quad (4)$$

129

130 Neumann et al.'s equation of state approach also requires CO₂/water interfacial tension data
 131 which was taken from Sarmadivaleh et al. (2015) and CO₂/brine interfacial tension was taken
 132 from Arif et al. (2016a), Table 3.

133

134

135 **Table 1:** Contact angle data for CO₂-deionized (DI) water systems for minerals investigated in
 136 this study.

137

Temperature (K)	Pressure (MPa)	Quartz		Water-wet mica		Oil-wet mica		High rank coal		Medium rank coal		Low rank coal	
		θ_a	θ_r	θ_a	θ_r	θ_a	θ_r	θ_a	θ_r	θ_a	θ_r	θ_a	θ_r
		(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)
308*	0.1	0	0	10	5	90	65	37	30	32	25	43	32
	5	15	11	33	25	125	107	94	80	77	63	75	60
	10	23	17	55	50	148	128	140	126	127	115	103	87
	15	30	20	71	63	170	159	146	134	128	118	112	96
	20	37	23	80	72	172	160	151	139	137	121	122	110
323	0.1	0	0	4	0	74	64	51	45	28	22	38	27
	5	19	13	30	24	118	102	89	79	69	49	50	42
	10	30	25	48	40	143	125	129	114	108	98	94	78
	15	38	28	59	54	170	157	136	123	114	102	102	91
	20	42	35	70	62	170	158	141	129	122	112	116	107
343	0.1	0	0	0	0	73	65	58	53	18	12	27	18
	5	22	19	27	22	99	82	86	74	48	33	45	36
	10	42	30	43	36	108	91	109	97	95	85	92	77
	15	45	38	52	48	128	110	119	111	102	89	102	87
	20	50	42	62	53	156	134	125	114	113	95	110	97

138 *contact angles are interpolated at 308 K for quartz

139

140

141 **Table 2:** Equilibrium contact angles for all minerals calculated using Tadmor's correlation.

Temperature (K)	Pressure (MPa)	Equilibrium contact angle θ_e (°)					
		Quartz	Water-wet mica	Oil-wet mica	High rank coal	Medium rank coal	Low rank coal
308	0.1	0	6	74.1	33.3	28.2	36.9
	5	12.9	28.7	112.8	85.8	69	66.4
	10	19.8	52.4	131.8	130	119	93.2

	15	24.2	66.7	159.9	137	122	102
	20	29	75.7	160.5	142	126	115
323	0.1	0	2	68.49	47.8	24.8	31.9
	5	15.7	26.8	107.7	83.4	57.1	45.7
	10	27.4	43.7	129.3	119	102	84.4
	15	32.5	56.4	157.8	127	107	95.6
	20	38.3	65.7	158.8	133	116	111
343	0.1	0	0.5	68.67	55.4	14.7	22
	5	20.4	24.3	88.62	79.2	39.4	40.1
	10	35.3	39.3	97.35	102	89.3	83.1
	15	41.3	49.9	115.6	114	94.3	92.9
	20	45.7	57.1	136.6	118	101	102

142

143

144 **Table 3:** CO₂/DI-water and CO₂/brine interfacial tension data used.

145

Temperature (K)	Pressure (MPa)	CO ₂ /DI-water IFT ^a (mN/m)	CO ₂ /brine* IFT ^b (mN/m)
308	0.1	75.8	72.9
	5	40.2	50.1
	10	28.4	38.2
	15	22.7	33.9
	20	21.0	32.3
323	0.1	73.1	72.0
	5	49	55.3
	10	35.5	42.6
	15	29	38.7
	20	26	36.0
343	0.1	65	69.2
	5	52.18	57.7
	10	43	44.8
	15	34.5	39.7
	20	27	37.7

146

147 ^a experimental data from Sarmadivaleh et al. (2015), values interpolated at 308 K and 323 K

148 ^b experimental data from Arif et al. (2016a)

149 *20wt% NaCl in DI water

150

151

152

153

154 **2.2. Surface free energy computation**

155 The surface free energy of solids has been investigated by a growing number of studies (e.g.
156 Ameri et al., 2013; Dickson et al., 2006; Kwok and Neumann, 2000; Zenkiewicz, 2007) as it
157 is of great practical significance for many engineering applications including catalysis,
158 coatings, flotation, printing and polymer sciences (Zenkiewicz, 2007). The most common
159 approaches include the Zisman method (Fox and Zisman, 1952), the Fowkes method (Fowkes,
160 1964), the geometric-mean approach (Owens and Wendt, 1969), the harmonic-mean approach
161 (Wu, 1971), the equation of state approach or Neumann's method (Neumann et al., 1974) and
162 the acid-base approach or van Oss-Good method (van Oss et al., 1986). We chose Neumann's
163 equation of state method because of convenience in its application as it requires the knowledge
164 of experimental contact angle, θ , and CO₂/water interfacial tension (γ_{cw}) data for which reliable
165 data is available.

166

167 Thermodynamically, solid/CO₂, solid/water and CO₂/water interfacial tensions (γ_{sc} , γ_{sw}
168 and γ_{cw}) are interrelated by an equation of state (Neumann et al., 1974), such that:

169

$$170 \quad \gamma_{sw} = f(\gamma_{sc}, \gamma_{cw}) \quad (5)$$

171

172 Neumann et al. (1974) used the hypothesis that the free energy of adhesion per unit area of a
173 solid-liquid pair is equal to the work required to separate a unit area of solid-liquid interface
174 and that free adhesion energy was proposed to be equal to the geometric mean of the solid
175 cohesion work and the liquid cohesion work. These geometric means were combined so that
176 equation (6) resulted (for a complete derivation the reader is referred to Ameri et al., 2013).

177

$$178 \quad \gamma_{sw} = \gamma_{sc} + \gamma_{cw} - 2\sqrt{\gamma_{cw}\gamma_{sc}}[1 - \beta(\gamma_{cw} - \gamma_{sc})^2] \quad (6)$$

179

180 The equation (7) below was then derived by Ameri et al., (2013) to find an expression for γ_{sc}
181 instead of γ_{sw} as shown:

182

183

$$\gamma_{sc} = \gamma_{sw} + \gamma_{cw} - 2\sqrt{\gamma_{cw}\gamma_{sw}}[1 - \beta(\gamma_{cw} - \gamma_{sw})^2] \quad (7)$$

184

185 ‘ β ’ is a constant which is related to the fit of the original experimental data (Neumann et al.,
186 1974) to the model and in the present case it can be determined by non-linear regression of
187 contact angle (θ) and CO₂/water interfacial tension data (γ_{cw}) as further explained below.

188

189 Combining Eq. (1) and (7), one obtains:

190

$$\cos \theta_e = 1 - 2 \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_{sw}}{\gamma_{cw}}} [1 - \beta(\gamma_{cw} - \gamma_{sw})^2] \quad (8)$$

191 Ameri et al., (2013) applied equation (7) and (8) to determine solid/CO₂ interfacial tension of
192 oil-wet Bentheimer sandstone as a function of pressure and they reported the corresponding
193 values of solid/liquid interfacial tension derived by non-linear regression. To account for a
194 systematic evaluation of wettability dependence on pressure, temperature and salinity, we
195 express equations (7) and (8) to clearly demonstrate that these are functions of pressure,
196 temperature and salinity:

197

198

$$\gamma_{sc(P,T,S)} = \gamma_{sw(T,S)} + \gamma_{cw(P,T,S)} - 2\sqrt{\gamma_{cw(P,T,S)}\gamma_{sw(T,S)}} [1 - \beta(\gamma_{cw(P,T,S)} - \gamma_{sw(T,S)})^2] \quad (9)$$

199

200

201

$$\cos \theta_{e(P,T,S)} = 1 - 2 \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_{sw(T,S)}}{\gamma_{cw(P,T,S)}}} [1 - \beta(\gamma_{cw(P,T,S)} - \gamma_{sw(T,S)})^2] \quad (10)$$

202

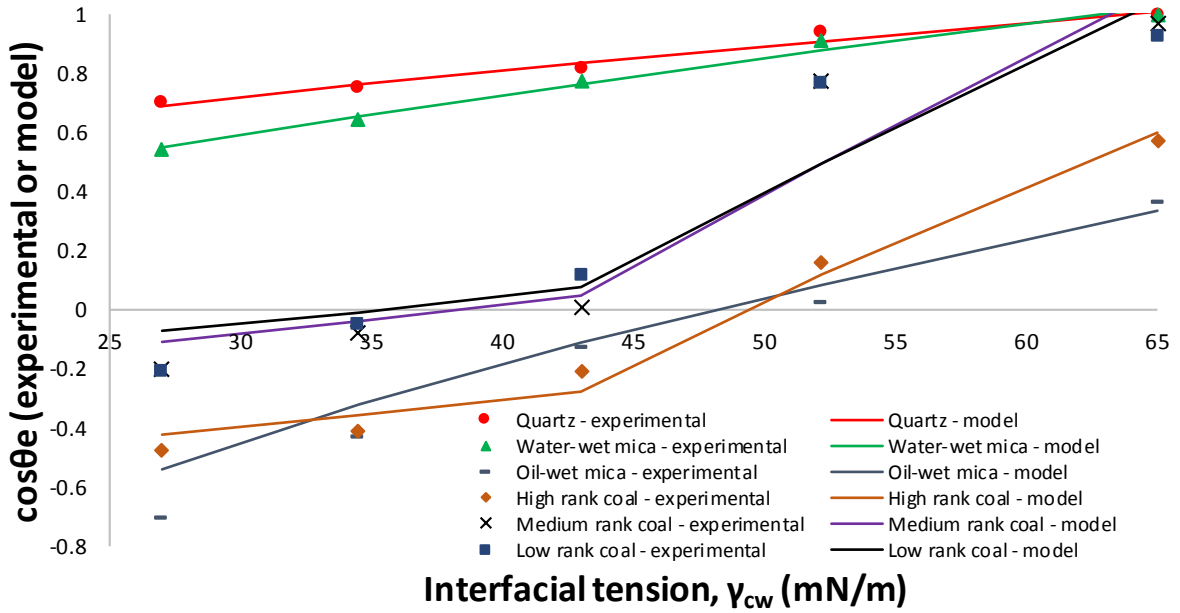
203 The scripts P, T and S refer to pressure, temperature and salinity, respectively, and are added
204 to the interfacial energy terms to elucidate their dependence on them. It is notable that γ_{sw} is
205 dependent on temperature and salinity but not on pressure (Ameri et al., 2013; Neumann et al.,
206 1974). This is the basic assumption of the Neumann’s equation of state.

207 Our computations begin with input data acquisition which includes a) advancing and receding
208 contact angle data for quartz (Al-Yaseri et al., 2016a), water-wet mica (Arif et al., 2016a), oil-
209 wet mica (Arif et al., 2016b) and coals of high medium and low ranks (Arif et al., 2016c) listed
210 in Table 1, and b) CO₂/water interfacial data (Sarmadivaleh et al., 2015), listed in Table 3.
211 Then, $\cos\theta_e$ (cosine of the equilibrium contact angle) is calculated using advancing and
212 receding contact angle data for all cases analysed (results in Table 2). In the next step, $\gamma_{sw(T)}$
213 and the constant ' β ' are determined by least squares fitting of the $\cos\theta_e$ and γ_{cw} data. To
214 accomplish this, $\cos\theta_e$ is first calculated by using equation (10) for any trial values of $\gamma_{sw(T)}$
215 and ' β ' and is plotted against γ_{cw} (this data is referred as model data). Moreover, the
216 experimental $\cos\theta_e$ (Table 2) is also plotted against γ_{cw} (such a plot is shown in Figure 1 for all
217 minerals analysed at 343 K), the regression analysis of these data-sets yield final values of
218 $\gamma_{sw(T)}$ and ' β ' corresponding to the best-fit (note: such plots are created at all three analysis
219 temperatures and for all minerals, and directly provide values of $\gamma_{sw(T)}$ as a function of
220 temperature). Finally, using these calculated values, solid/CO₂ interfacial tension is computed
221 using equation (9) as a function of pressure, temperature, salinity and type of the mineral.

222

223 **2.3. Regression fit of data**

224 As a first step, $\cos\theta_e$ (experimental) is plotted against γ_{cw} and on the same plot $\cos\theta_e$ (calculated
225 using equation 10 for arbitrary values of γ_{sw} and ' β ') is also plotted against γ_{cw} . Such plots are
226 constructed corresponding for each temperature and for all five cases analysed. An example is
227 shown in Figure 1, where, for simplicity, only a temperature of 343 K is shown, but for all five
228 minerals investigated. The model and experimental data are in a good agreement, however the
229 model predictions are sensitive to CO₂/water interfacial tension values and thus reliable
230 CO₂/interfacial tension input is required for reliable modelling of solid/fluid interfacial
231 tensions.



232

233

234 **Figure 1:** Regression fit of experimental and model data for all minerals investigated at 343
 235 K.

236

237 The R^2 -values, fitting parameters ' β ' and γ_{sw} were computed for each case from the regression
 238 fits and the results are tabulated in Table 4. The standard deviations in experimental contact
 239 angle and interfacial tension data used were $\pm 3^\circ$ and ± 3 mN/m respectively.

240

241 **Table 4:** Results obtained from regression fit of the experimental and model data.

Case	Temperature (K)	R^2	β	γ_{sw} (mN/m)
Quartz	308	0.898	0.000205	0.058
	323	0.943	0.000219	0.284
	343	0.988	0.0002524	0.952
Water-wet mica	308	0.899	0.00022	2.178
	323	0.935	0.00023	2.048
	343	0.992	0.00027	1.98
Oil-wet mica	308	0.9857	0.000166	20.19
	323	0.988	0.00022	25.47
	343	0.92	0.000145	16.53
High rank coal	308	0.9778	0.00033	20.25
	323	0.952	0.00028	19.23

	343	0.944	0.00021	15.37
Medium rank coal	308	0.994	0.00031	16.17
	323	0.974	0.0003	13.87
	343	0.93	0.00034	10.81
Low rank coal	308	0.989	0.00022	11.22
	323	0.954	0.0003	10.38
	343	0.946	0.00032	10.12

242

243

244

245

246 **3. Results and discussion**

247

248 We computed solid/CO₂ interfacial tension as a function of pressure, temperature and salinity
 249 and solid/water interfacial tension as a function of temperature and salinity via Neumann's
 250 equation of state (Neumann et al., 1974) for quartz, mica and coals using experimental contact
 251 angle data and CO₂/brine interfacial tension data. The results broaden the understanding of
 252 rock/fluid interaction properties. Specifically, the results of this study allow the understanding
 253 of the influence of surface energy on rock wettability as a function of pressure, temperature,
 254 salinity, and type of mineral. Thus, the results contribute to a better understanding of storage
 255 mechanisms which ensure containment security (Iglauer et al., 2015b; Krevor et al., 2012;
 256 Krevor et al., 2015).

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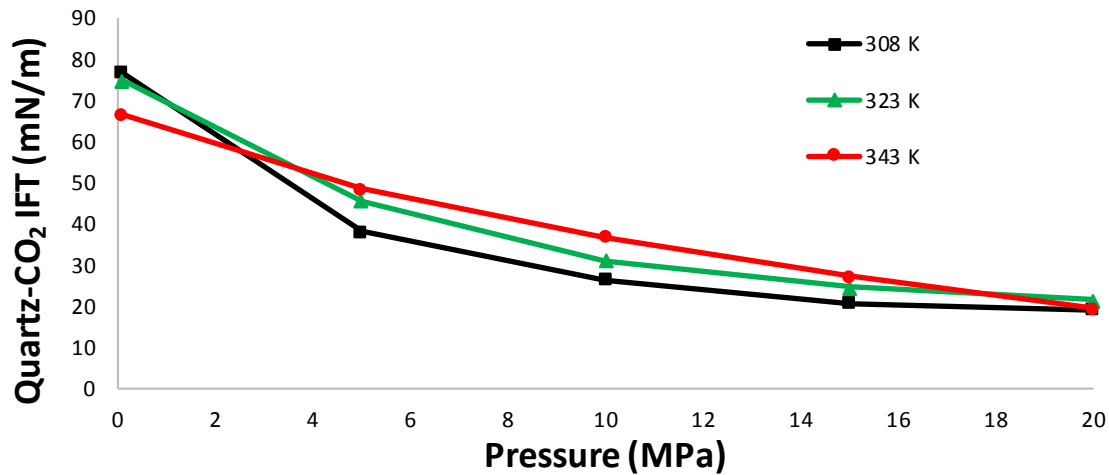
259 **3.1. Effect of pressure on solid/CO₂ interfacial tension**

260

261 *3.1.1 Case 1: quartz*

262 γ_{sc} (solid/CO₂ interfacial tension) decreased with pressure at all temperatures and for all cases
 263 analysed (Figure 2-4). As the pressure increased from 0.1 MPa to 10 MPa, quartz/CO₂
 264 interfacial tension decreased sharply from 75 mN/m to 31 mN/m at 323 K (Figure 2). However,
 265 the decrease flattened for an additional pressure increment (from 15 MPa to 20 MPa it changed
 266 from 24.6 mN/m to 21.6 mN/m, a reduction of only 3 mN/m). A similar trend was found at
 267 elevated temperature, 343 K. Physically, as the pressure increases, the cohesive energy density
 268 of CO₂ increases and approaches to the cohesive energy of the substrate (Dickson et al., 2006).

269 Eventually, the interactions between solid and CO₂ become more favourable and as a result
 270 quartz/CO₂ interfacial energy decreases with pressure. Note that at pressure = 0.1 MPa, a switch
 271 in temperature occurs due to a switch in CO₂/water interfacial tensions; Table 3 (Arif et al.,
 272 2016a).
 273



274
 275 **Figure 2:** Quartz/CO₂ interfacial tension as a function of pressure and temperature.
 276

277 A few studies report surface free energies of quartz at ambient conditions. Janczuk and
 278 Zdziennicka, (1994) calculated the surface energy of quartz at ambient conditions against air
 279 using the van Oss-Good method (van Oss et al., 1986) and the values ranged from 57 mN/m to
 280 126 mN/m, consistent with our value (~74 mN/m) estimated for a similar condition (0.1 MPa
 281 and 308 K).

282
 283 Dickson et al. (2006) is the only major study which computed surface energies as a function of
 284 pressure for silica (glass)/CO₂ systems and found that for a partially methylated glass surface
 285 (63% of the surface was covered by methyl groups, the remaining 37% by SiOH groups)
 286 surface solid/CO₂ interfacial tension decreased with pressure. The values reported were 38
 287 mN/m at a CO₂ activity of 0 (equivalent to a pressure of 0.1 MPa) and reduced to ~10 mN/m
 288 at a CO₂ activity of 1.4 (equivalent to 20 MPa) at 296 K. The decrease in quartz/CO₂ interfacial
 289 tension with pressure is thus consistent with Dickson et al. (2006), however, the difference in
 290 values is due to the fact that the surface they used had only 37% silanol group coverage (while
 291 in our case it is 100%, i.e. pure quartz). Furthermore, Dickson et al. (2006) reported solid/CO₂
 292 interfacial tension for a 12% SiOH surface (now 88% of the surface was methylated), for which
 293 lower γ_{sc} values were reported (20 mN/m at 0.1 MPa and ~0 mN/m at 20 MPa) which is due to

294 the higher hydrophobicity of the 12% SiOH surface (when compared with the 37% SiOH
295 surface). Due to the limited number of silanol groups available, only a minimal amount of CO₂
296 is expected to cap these hydrophilic sites, thus γ_{sc} values were lower for lower silanol coverage
297 (e.g. for our case $\gamma_{sc} = 20$ mN/m at 20 MPa, and for Dickson et al. $\gamma_{sc} = 10$ mN/m for 37% SiOH
298 surface, and ~ 0 mN/m for 12% SiOH surface).

299 The higher values of quartz/CO₂ interfacial tensions as compared to mica (see below) at a given
300 pressure and temperature imply that quartz is more hydrophobic in nature.

301

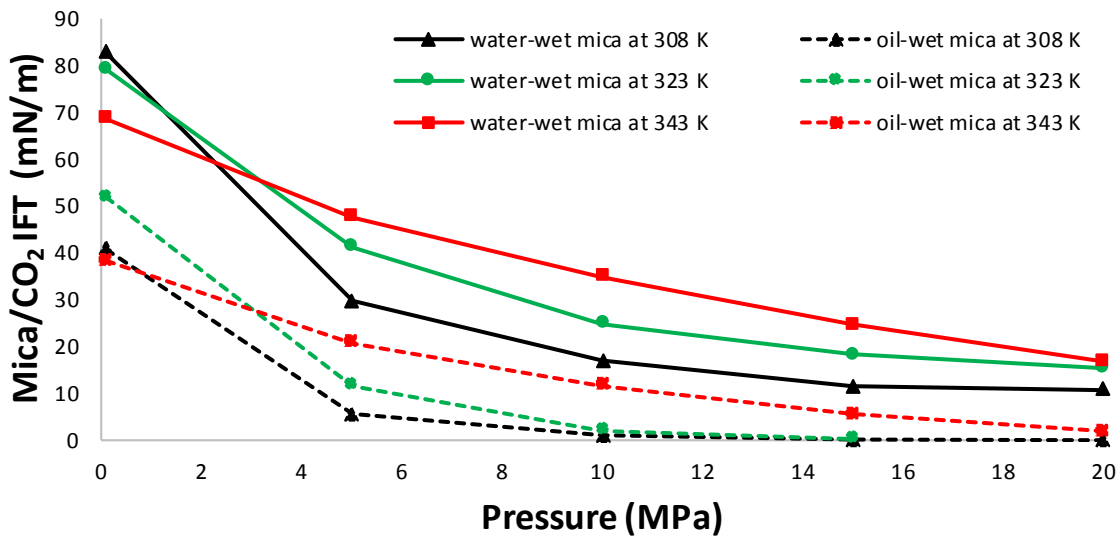
302 3.1.2 Case 2: Mica

303 Two mica surfaces were analysed: a) naturally water-wet mica (Arif et al., 2016a) and b) oil-
304 wet mica (treated with silane to achieve oil-wet conditions, ambient air/water contact angle =
305 120°, Arif et al., 2016b). The results indicate that, likewise quartz, mica/CO₂ interfacial tension
306 decreased with pressure for both water-wet and oil-wet mica surfaces (Figure 3). When
307 pressure increased from 0.1 MPa to 5 MPa, mica/CO₂ interfacial tension decreased sharply
308 from 78 mN/m to 41 mN/m, for water-mica. Gradually, the decrease flattened out with further
309 increase in pressure (24 mN/m at 10 MPa and 16 mN/m at 20 MPa). Similar trends were found
310 for oil-wet mica surface. However, at any given pressure, the mica/CO₂ interfacial tension was
311 considerably higher for water-wet mica. For example, at 10 MPa and 343 K, mica/CO₂
312 interfacial tension was 40 mN/m for water-wet mica and only 4.6 mN/m for oil-wet mica
313 surface. This result is quite remarkable – as it demonstrates that the hydrophobic surfaces (e.g.
314 oil-wet mica - higher water contact angles) have considerably lower solid/CO₂ interfacial
315 energies in comparison to the hydrophilic surfaces (e.g. water-wet mica, lower water contact
316 angles, and quartz, even lower contact angles than water-wet mica). The permanent oil coating
317 on the mica (to be precise: the C12 alkyl rests chemically bonded to the surface) is responsible
318 for the low surface energy of the oil-wet mica surface. Moreover, it can also be established that
319 the higher the solid/vapour surface energy, the higher is the tendency of the surface to wet with
320 water (i.e. lower contact angles, e.g. Table 1). The results are consistent with Ameri et al.
321 (2013) who used a similar methodology and computed interfacial interaction of CO₂ and oil-
322 wet Bentheimer. Their results show that at any pressure, solid/CO₂ interfacial tension was
323 lower for the more oil-wet cores. For instance, at 10 MPa and 318 K, solid/CO₂ interfacial
324 tensions were 20 mN/m for relatively more water-wet Bentheimer (SB-1) and 1 mN/m for oil-
325 wet Bentheimer (SB-6, Ameri et al. 2013).

326 These results are significant for understanding the fluid flow dynamics in oil-wet and water-
327 wet reservoir and caprocks (Iglauer et al. 2015a), and also for material design and development

328 where the physicochemical surface characteristics (e.g. surface energy) play a key role for a
 329 wide range of operating conditions (Zenkiewicz, 2007).

330



331

332 **Figure 3:** Mica/CO₂ interfacial tension as function of pressure and temperature.

333

334

335 3.1.3 Case 3: Coals

336

337 Three coal samples [high rank (semi anthracite; from Hazelton, Pennsylvania, USA), medium
 338 rank (medium volatile bituminous; from Morgantown, West Virginia, USA), and low rank
 339 (lignite; from North Dakota, USA)] were analysed for surface energy calculations. Advancing
 340 and receding contact angle data for the three coals is taken from our previous work (Arif et al.,
 341 2016c, Table 1). The detailed description of the properties of these coal sample can be found
 342 elsewhere (Arif et al., 2016c), however the mineral identified by XRD in the three samples
 343 revealed that the major minerals present were illite, quartz and kaolinite. We note that the
 344 measured contact angles may slightly vary with the mineralogy of coal; thus the results
 345 reported here must be accompanied with the mineralogy of the specific sample under
 346 investigation. Results showed that coal/CO₂ interfacial tension also decreased with pressure
 347 irrespective of the coal rank (Figure 4). For all coals, the coal/CO₂ interfacial tension decreased
 348 sharply for the pressure interval 0.1 MPa-5 MPa, e.g. for high rank coal, at 308 K, coal/CO₂
 349 interfacial tension decreased from 84 mN/m to ~12 mN/m when pressure increased from 0.1
 350 MPa to 5 MPa. However, γ_{sc} turned almost constant for the pressure interval 10 MPa – 20 MPa
 351 (Figure 4). Moreover, at a given pressure, the low rank coals exhibited the highest coal/CO₂

352 interfacial tension values, while the high rank coal had the lowest coal/CO₂ interfacial tension,
353 e.g. at 10 MPa and 323 K, coal/CO₂ interfacial tensions were 4.7 mN/m, 7.4 mN/m, and 10.2
354 mN/m for high, medium and low rank coals, respectively. At ambient conditions, Staszczuk
355 (1989) determined surface free energy of coal, and found that the dispersion component was
356 45 mN/m and polar component measured 13 mN/m, thus a total surface energy of 58 mN/m
357 comparable to our results ~ 70 mN/m for low rank coal at 308 K and 0.1 MPa.

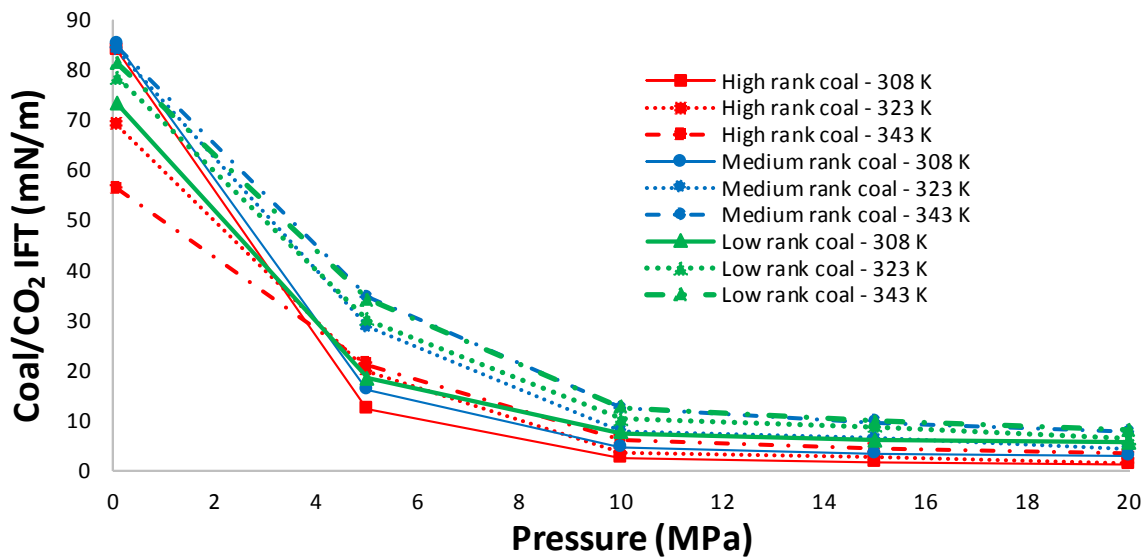
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359 In order to explain the variation of coal/CO₂ interfacial tension with coal rank, we conducted
360 FTIR (Fourier Transformed infrared) spectroscopy measurements on the coal samples (Figure
361 5). Low rank coal demonstrated the largest peak beginning at about 2800 cm⁻¹ and ending at
362 3800 cm⁻¹ which is attributed to the O-H and N-H stretch vibrations (Socrates, 2004) while
363 high rank coal exhibited negligible O-H and N-H stretch vibrations at 3800 cm⁻¹. The
364 abundance of these hydrophilic sites in low rank coal and absence of these sites in high rank
365 coal is responsible for higher coal/CO₂ interfacial tensions for low rank coal and low coal/CO₂
366 interfacial tension for high rank coal. The band at ~2900 cm⁻¹ observed for low and medium
367 rank coal is due to the presence of aliphatic C-H stretching vibrations (Wu et al., 2014);
368 however, its absence in high rank coal is unusual and is perhaps due to C-H stretching where
369 the carbon is in a C=C bond. The rough part of the spectra for 2000-2400 cm⁻¹ should be
370 ignored as this is where the ATR crystal is absorbing itself (diamond) and the bands don't
371 always perfectly cancel out.

372 Moreover, the sharp band observed at 1500-1800 cm⁻¹ for low and medium rank coal is
373 attributed to aromatic ring vibrations, which are enhanced by oxygen groups (Sarwar et al.,
374 2012). The corresponding shoulder peaks at 1600 cm⁻¹ for low and medium rank coals is
375 attributed to C=O stretching vibrations and these represent all C=O functionalities, e.g.
376 carboxylic acids or phenolic esters (Manoj et al., 2009). Furthermore, low and medium rank
377 coal (medium volatile bituminous) exhibited significantly stronger bands (in comparison to
378 high rank coal) at wave numbers from 600-800 cm⁻¹ and 1000-1100 cm⁻¹ indicating presence
379 of more C-S stretching vibrations and C-H out of plane bending.

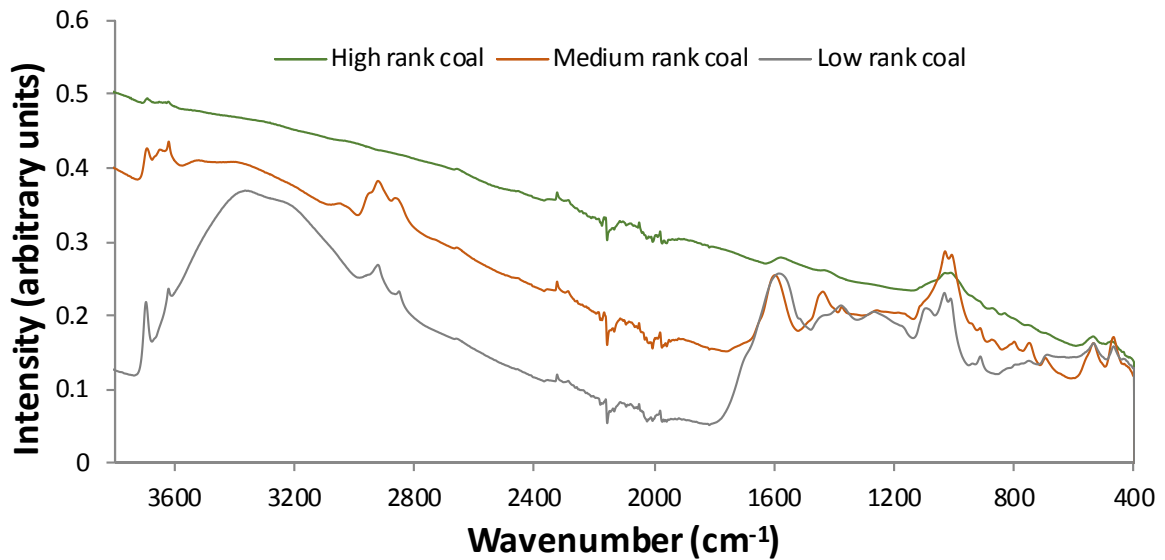
380 Thus, low rank coal has more polar functional groups on the surface than medium rank coal,
381 and thus fewer attractive forces between the more polar surface and the non-polar (here in the
382 sense of no external dipole moment) CO₂ generated, which lead to the higher coal/CO₂
383 interfacial tension for low rank coal at any pressure as compared to medium and high rank coals
384 (Figure 4).

385
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388
389 **Figure 4:** Coal/CO₂ interfacial tension as a function of pressure, temperature and coal rank.

390



391
392
393 **Figure 5.** ATR-Infrared spectra for low, medium and high rank coals.

394

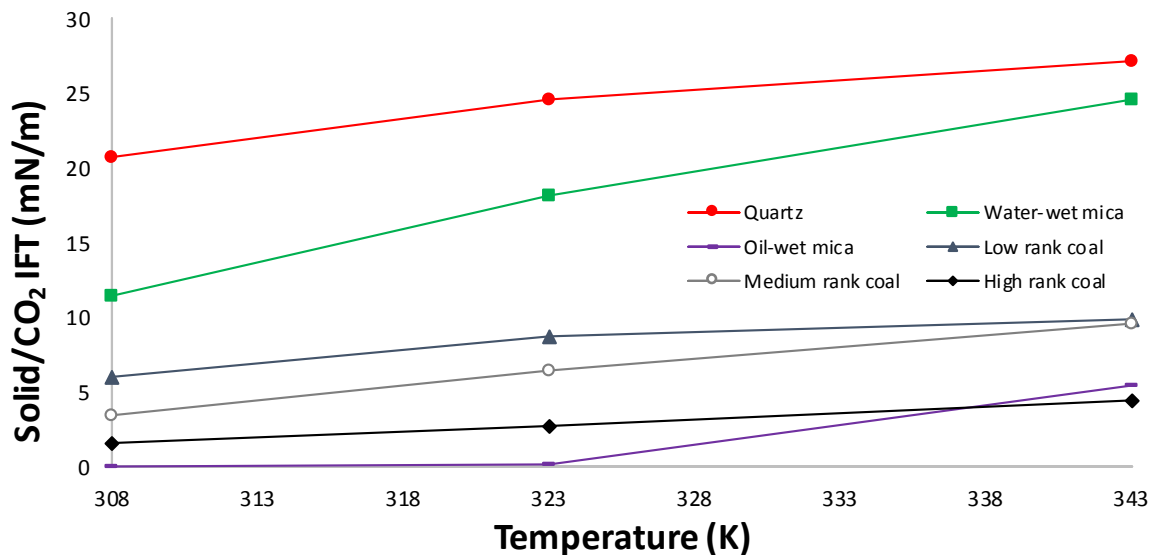
395 Note that high surface energy corresponds to strong cohesive forces and higher boiling points
396 (Tripp and Combes, 1998). Moreover, high energy surfaces tend to reduce energy by
397 adsorption of contaminants from the environment (Tripp and Combes, 1998).

398

399 3.2. Effect of temperature on solid/CO₂ interfacial tension

400

401 For all cases analysed, the solid/CO₂ interfacial tension increased with temperature (Figures 2-
402 4). For simplicity, a plot of solid/CO₂ interfacial tensions for the temperature range 308-343 K
403 at 15 MPa is presented in Figure 6.



404

405

406 **Figure 6:** Solid/CO₂ interfacial tension as a function of temperature at 15 MPa for various
407 substrates.

408

409 Quartz/CO₂ interfacial tension increased from 21 mN/m to 27 mN/m when temperature
410 increased from 308 K to 343 K (Figure 6). Moreover, solid/CO₂ interfacial tension was highest
411 for quartz, and lowest for oil-wet mica at any pressure and temperature.

412 Mica/CO₂ interfacial tension also followed a similar trend. For water-wet mica, mica/CO₂
413 interfacial tension increased from 11.5 mN/m to 24 mN/m when temperature increased from
414 308 K to 343 K, while for the same temperature interval, for oil-wet mica, mica/CO₂ interfacial
415 tension increased from ~ 0 mN/m to 5 mN/m. Moreover, oil-wet mica demonstrated the lowest
416 values of mica/CO₂ interfacial tension out of all cases at any pressure and temperature which
417 is again attributed to reduced number of polar sites on oil-wet mica surface.

418 Coal/CO₂ interfacial tension also decreased with temperature, (Figure 6). For instance, for low
419 rank coal, coal/CO₂ interfacial tension increased from 6 mN/m to ~ 9.5 mN/m when
420 temperature increased from 308 K to 343 K. Moreover, high rank coal had the lowest coal/CO₂
421 interfacial tension at any temperature which is due to the lower concentration of polar surface

422 groups on the high rank coal (see above and Figure 5). Moreover, we point out that higher
423 coal/CO₂ interfacial tensions reduces CO₂-adsorption in coals (because CO₂-adsorption in
424 coals also decreases with temperature, Bustin and Clarkson, 1998).

425 For all cases analysed, the increase in γ_{sc} with temperature is attributed to a decrease in cohesive
426 energy density of CO₂ with temperature (Barton, 1991) while the cohesive energy density of
427 the solid is expected to stay approximately constant with temperature (Kittel, 2005), which
428 leads to an increase in the difference of solid/CO₂ cohesive energies with temperature.
429 Consequently, the interactions between solid and CO₂ become less favourable, thus γ_{sc}
430 increases with temperature which promotes water-wetting of the surface. Moreover, reduction
431 in CO₂ density with temperature leads to fewer van der Waals interactions which leads to an
432 increase in γ_{sc} with temperature.

433

434

435 *3.3. Effect of temperature on solid/water interfacial tension*

436

437 Solid/water interfacial tension is directly computed from the regression fit of the experimental
438 and model data and the results are shown in Table 4. For all cases, the solid/water interfacial
439 tension decreased with increasing temperature except for quartz, for which it increased with
440 temperature. However, the absolute quartz γ_{sw} was very low and so were the changes in γ_{sw} .
441 When temperature increased from 308 K-343 K the quartz/water interfacial tension increased
442 from 0.058 mN/m to 0.952 mN/m. Recently, Shojai Kaveh et al. (2016) calculated interfacial
443 energy of shale/water systems and found that the values of shale/water interfacial tension was
444 also quite low (0.58 mN/m at 318 K), consistent with our results. The increase in quartz/water
445 interfacial tension with temperature is due to desorption of water molecules from the surface
446 (Janczuk and Zdziennicka, 1994).

447 For mica, at any temperature, the solid/water interfacial tensions were notably higher for oil-
448 wet mica and lower for water-wet mica (e.g. $\gamma_{sw} = \sim 25$ mN/m for oil-wet mica (21% carbon
449 coverage, Arif et al., 2016b), and ~ 2 mN/m for water-wet mica (0% carbon coverage, unaltered
450 surface, Arif et al., 2016b) at the same temperature, 323 K and pressure, 10 MPa). The larger
451 solid/liquid interfacial tension values for the more hydrophobic surface is consistent with
452 Dickson et al. (2006) who reported that the glass surface with higher silanol coverage had lower
453 solid/liquid interfacial tensions (note: a higher concentration of surface silanol groups creates
454 a more hydrophilic surface (Chen et al., 2015; McCaughan et al., 2013). Specifically, the
455 calculated γ_{sw} values for the 37% SiOH and 12% SiOH surfaces were 13.2 and 29.2 mN/m

456 respectively (Dickson et al., 2006), quite comparable to our results for the oil-wet mica
457 surfaces. The results are also consistent with Ameri et al. (2013) who reported that γ_{sw} was
458 significantly lower for water-wet sandstones ($\gamma_{sw} = 2.88$ mN/m) as compared to oil-wet
459 sandstones ($\gamma_{sw} = 27.22$ mN/m).

460 Coal surfaces also exhibited similar trends, i.e. γ_{sw} decreased with increasing temperature, and
461 the values of coal/water interfacial tension were higher for high rank coal and lower for low
462 rank coal (e.g. at 323 K, γ_{sw} was 19.23 mN/m for high rank coal, 13.87 mN/m for medium
463 rank coal and 10.38 mN/m for low rank coals, Table 4). This effect is attributed to an abundance
464 of hydrophilic sites (OH functional groups, typically silanol) in low rank coal and absence of
465 hydrophilic sites in high rank coal. Essentially, presence of silanol sites leads to favourable
466 interactions between coal surface and water, thereby resulting in a reduction of γ_{sw} for low
467 rank coal.

468 Further, we point out that the proposed methodology assumes that γ_{sw} is constant versus
469 pressure. In reality, however, the solid/water interactions are expected to change due to increase
470 in solubility of CO₂ in water with pressure (El-Maghraby et al. 2012), and associated lower pH
471 values (Schaeff and McGrail, 2004), which leads to increased protonation of the silanol surface
472 groups (Brown et al., 2012).

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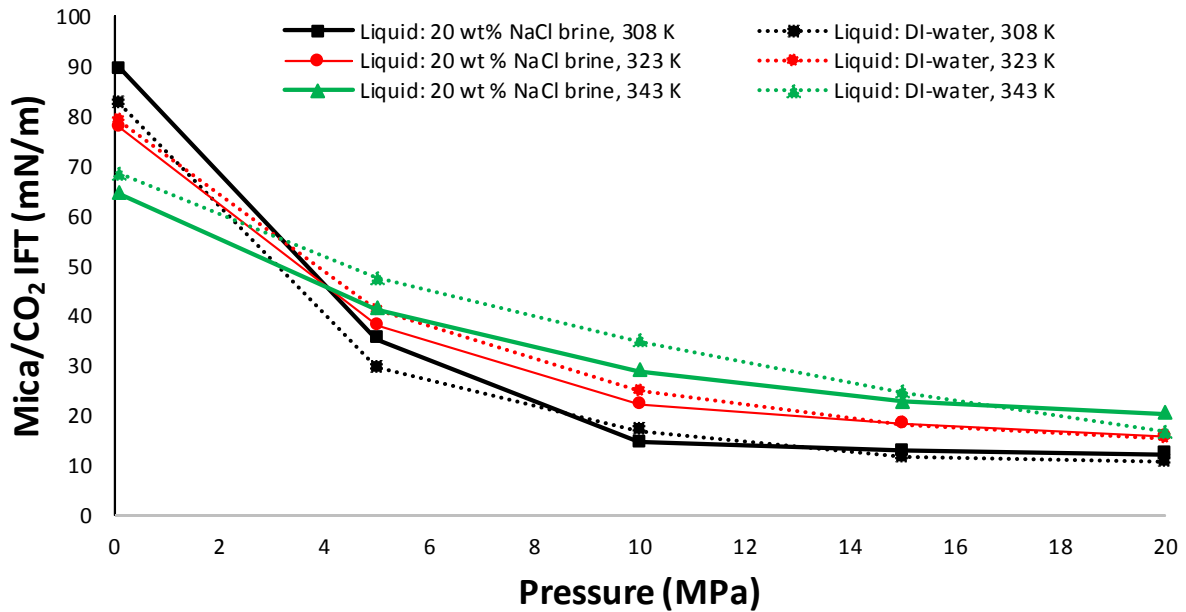
474 *3.4. Effect of salinity on solid/CO₂ interfacial tension*

475

476 We compared solid/CO₂ interfacial tension (as function of pressure and temperature) for 20
477 wt% NaCl brine in mica/CO₂ systems and compared it with that of mica/water systems. The
478 results showed that the mica/CO₂ interfacial tension for DI-water at a particular pressure and
479 temperature is quite similar to the mica/CO₂ interfacial tension for 20 wt % NaCl brine case
480 (Figure 7). For instance, at 323 K, and 10 MPa, the mica/CO₂ interfacial tensions were 22.4
481 mN/m for liquid comprising of 20 wt% NaCl brine, and 24.8 mN/m for DI-water, thus a
482 difference of only 2.4 mN/m (Figure 7). Moreover, at the same temperature but at 15 MPa,
483 mica/CO₂ interfacial tension for two different liquids (DI water and 20 wt % NaCl brine) is the
484 same (~18.5 mN/m, Figure 7). In summary, the R²-values for the correlation between mica/CO₂
485 interfacial tensions for the two liquids were 0.997, 0.998 and 0.985 at 308 K, 323 K and 343
486 K, respectively, indicating a strong correlation. This implies that solid/CO₂ interfacial tension
487 is not much changed by altering the type of the liquid in the same system. We point out that

488 this result verifies this methodology and our predictions (of mineral/CO₂ and mineral/water
 489 interfacial tensions) to some extent.

490



491

492 **Figure 7:** Mica/CO₂ interfacial tension as a function of pressure and temperature for two
 493 different liquids (DI-water and 20 wt% NaCl brine)

494

495

496 3.5. Effect of salinity on solid/water interfacial tension

497 To analyse the effect of salinity on the solid-water interfacial energies, we compared γ_{sw} results
 498 for DI water (see above) with that of 20 wt% NaCl brine. The β values from the non-linear
 499 regression fit of cosine of the equilibrium contact angle data were 0.000267, 0.000284, and
 500 0.00034 at 308 K, 323 K and 343 K, respectively. The Pearson coefficients were 0.846, 0.921
 501 and 0.941, indicating good fits. The mica/brine (20wt% NaCl) interfacial tensions were 10.5
 502 mN/m, 6.27 mN/m and 4.4 mN/m at 308 K, 323 K and 343 K, respectively implying that
 503 mica/brine interfacial tension decreased with temperature, consistent with the solid/DI-water
 504 system (discussed above). However, at any given temperature, mica/brine interfacial tension
 505 was larger than the mica/water interfacial tension. For instance, at 308 K, mica/brine (20 wt %
 506 NaCl brine) interfacial tension was 10.5 mN/m in comparison to 2.1 mN/m for mica/DI water
 507 at the same temperature (308 K). This result is consistent with Ameri et al. (2013) who found
 508 that when salinity increased from 0wt% NaCl to 3.5 wt% NaCl, γ_{sw} increased slightly.
 509 However, Shoaaji Kaveh et al. (2016) found a slight reduction in γ_{sw} with salinity. The increase

510 in solid/brine interfacial tension with salinity is related to the intermolecular forces and the zeta
511 potential which arises due to charged species on the surface. As salinity increases, more counter
512 ions are available to reduce the net charge and thus reduces the polarity of the surface, which
513 again leads to a reduction in water-surface van der Waals forces. Lower van der Waals
514 interactions result in higher interfacial tensions. Moreover, Roshan et al. (2016), recently
515 introduced a model to describe the physical processes for wettability variation as a function of
516 salinity in which they related electric potential at the mineral surface to the contact angle. Their
517 results showed that as salinity increased the surface became more hydrophobic due to a
518 decrease in the dielectric constant of liquid with salinity.

519

520

521 *3.6. Wettability dependence on surface energies*

522 In order to evaluate the net effect of these interfacial tensions on contact angle, the right hand
523 side (RHS) of Young's equation (the value of $\cos\theta$) was calculated for all cases analysed using
524 the computed values of γ_{sc} , γ_{sw} and experimental values of γ_{cw} . For quartz, $\cos\theta$ decreases
525 with pressure and temperature because quartz/ CO_2 interfacial tension decreases with pressure
526 and increases with temperature, and the quartz/water interfacial tension increases with
527 temperature. Thus the net effect of the three interfacial tension results in decrease in a $\cos\theta$
528 with pressure and temperature and consequently θ increases with pressure and temperature for
529 quartz (consistent with experimental data, Table 1). For all other cases (mica and coals), $\cos\theta$
530 decreases with pressure and increases with temperature because solid/ CO_2 interfacial tension
531 decreases with pressure and increases with temperature and the solid/water interfacial tension
532 also decreases with temperature (for mica and coals), thus θ increases with pressure and
533 decreases with temperature (consistent with experimental data, Table 1).

534 Moreover, for water-wet mica, $\cos\theta$ stays positive for all tested pressures and temperatures,
535 because the mica surface remains either strongly water-wet or weakly water-wet (contact angle
536 $< 90^\circ$, cp. Iglauer et al., 2015a, Table 1); however for the oil-wet mica surface, $\cos\theta$ reaches
537 negative values for a wide range of tested pressures and temperatures which indicates CO_2 -wet
538 conditions exhibited by this surface (contact angle $> 90^\circ$, Iglauer et al., 2015a, Table 1).
539 Moreover, θ increased more rapidly for oil-wet mica (as compared to water-wet mica), because
540 of the low CO_2 -solid interfacial energy, which promotes de-wetting of the surface by water
541 (Dickson et al., 2006). Because high energy fluids (e.g. water), do not tend to spread on low-
542 energy surfaces, the presence of a low energy CO_2 layer will cause the solid/water contact angle
543 to increase above 90° to increase the interfacial area between water and CO_2 . Furthermore, for

544 mica and coals, θ decreases with temperature because the net effect of solid/fluid and fluid/fluid
545 interfacial tensions gives rise to an increase in the $\cos\theta$ with temperature.

546 In summary, the increase in contact angle with pressure is due to a reduction in the difference
547 of solid and CO_2 cohesive energies with pressure which leads to more favourable interactions
548 between solid and CO_2 . Consequently, γ_{sc} decreases with pressure and thus promotes de-
549 wetting of the surface (i.e. higher water contact angle).

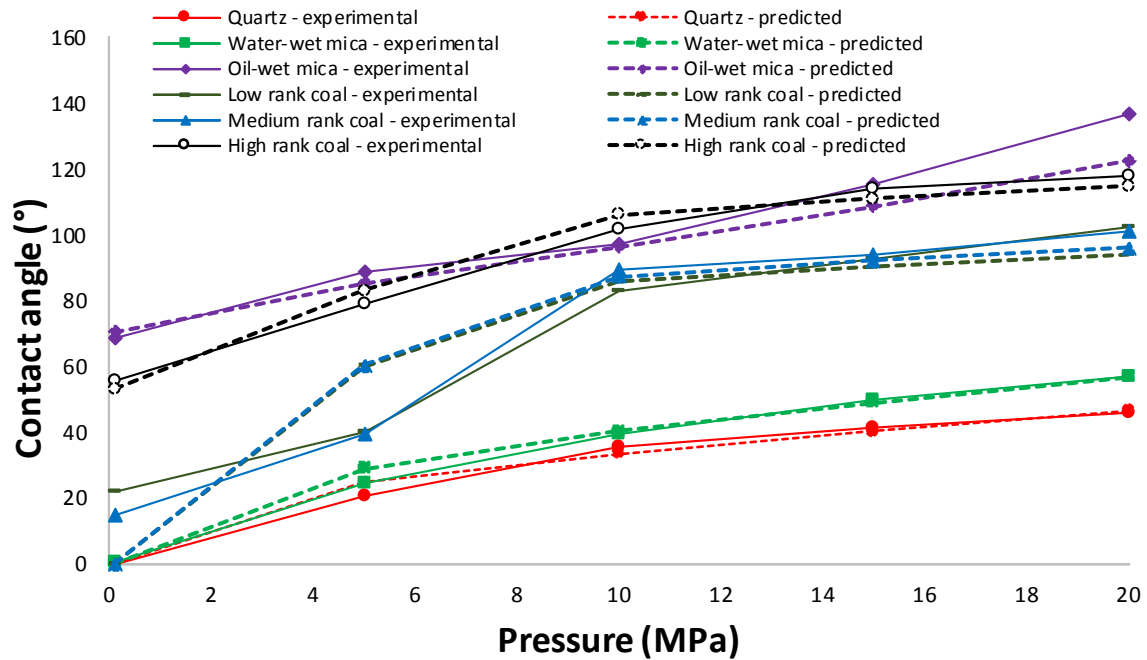
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552 **4. Implications**

553

554 We predicted solid/ CO_2 and solid/water interfacial tensions for various rock forming minerals
555 including quartz, mica and coals for a wide range of pressure and temperature conditions. The
556 results imply that the surfaces which are more non-wetting to water exhibit lower values of
557 solid/ CO_2 interfacial tension than the surfaces which are more water-wet (e.g. 18 mN/m for
558 water-wet mica in comparison to ~ 3 mN/m for oil-wet mica at 15 MPa and 323 K). Moreover,
559 the less water-wet surfaces have higher solid/water interfacial tensions than the water-wet
560 surfaces (24.8 mN/m for oil-wet mica and ~ 2 mN/m for water-wet mica, Figure 5).
561 Computations of these surface energies in conjunction with Young Laplace's equation enables
562 us to predict contact angles. As an example, θ values are predicted using Young's equation
563 (Equation 1) using the calculated values of the interfacial tensions and the results are shown at
564 343 K for all samples analysed (Figure 8). The results show a good match between
565 experimental contact angle and the predicted contact angles. This implies that the methodology
566 considered in this work to compute surface energies is correct and that the predicted solid-fluid
567 interfacial tensions correctly reproduced experimental contact angle data.



568
569

570 **Figure 8:** Experimental and predicted water contact angles as a function of pressure at 343 K
571 for all substrates.

572

573 In terms of a broader interpretation, the solid/fluid interfacial tensions reported in this study
574 are useful for relating CO₂ storage potential to rock/fluid interfacial tension. For instance,
575 water-wet rocks are better for CO₂ storage (Iglauer et al., 2011) because of higher solid/CO₂
576 (solid = rock in this case) interfacial tension and oil-wet rocks exhibit poor CO₂-storage
577 potential in terms of structural and residual trapping (Iglauer et al., 2016) due to lower
578 solid/CO₂ interfacial tension (e.g. pure quartz have higher solid/CO₂ interfacial tension than
579 37% SiOH quartz, section 3.1). Physically, due to higher solid/CO₂ interfacial tension for water-
580 wet rocks, CO₂ tends to stick to the rock (rock offers more resistance to the flow/leakage of
581 buoyant CO₂) and CO₂ is thus rendered immobile within the pores (leading to higher
582 capillary/residual trapping in water-wet rocks; Iglauer et al., 2011). However, the detailed
583 investigation of trapping potential must also account for solubility of CO₂ in the oil phase,
584 sealing tendency of the caprock, and the pore geometry etc. to device suitable field scale storage
585 plans.

586

587

588 **5. Conclusions**

589 We used Neumann's equation of state (Neumann et al., 1974) to compute the interfacial
590 tensions of mineral/CO₂ and mineral/water systems for important rock forming minerals
591 (quartz, water-wet mica and oil-wet mica) and for coals of high to low rank as a function of
592 pressure, temperature and salinity. It was found that mineral/CO₂ interfacial tension decreased
593 with pressure (consistent with Ameri et al. 2013 and Dickson et al. 2006), which is due to
594 increased CO₂-mineral intermolecular interactions (e.g. Iglauer et al., 2012, Al-Yaseri et al.
595 2016b). It was also found that mineral/CO₂ interfacial tensions increased with temperature
596 which is due to an increase in the difference of solid/CO₂ cohesive energies with temperature
597 which thus leads to less favourable interactions between solid and CO₂ (thus higher γ_{sc}).
598 Moreover, the more non-wetting to water the surface was, the lower were the mineral/CO₂
599 interfacial tensions and the higher were the mineral/water interfacial tensions, e.g. oil-wet mica
600 showed a lower mica/CO₂ interfacial tension than water-wet mica at the same pressure and
601 temperature. Similarly, high rank coal had a lower coal/CO₂ interfacial tension than the low
602 rank coal, because of greater hydrophobicity of high rank coal. This behaviour is attributed to
603 fewer hydrophilic sites in high rank coal as opposed to abundance of hydrophilic sites in low
604 rank coal (confirmed by IR spectroscopy). For all systems, solid/water interfacial tension
605 decreased with temperature, except for quartz, where the quartz/water interfacial tension
606 increased with temperature. The effect of salinity was also analysed and it was found that
607 solid/water interfacial tension increased with salinity. Moreover, contact angles were predicted
608 by Young's equation using the computed values of interfacial energies, and the predicted θ
609 values were in good agreement with the experimental θ values.

610 We conclude that the Neumann equation of state is adequate to quantify the solid surface
611 energy and that the results demonstrated significant influence of surface energy in controlling
612 the wettability dependence on pressure, temperature and salinity.

613

614

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616

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