



Field-scale simulations of CO₂ injection in saline aquifer in north Taiwan

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The carbon dioxide capture and storage (CCS) are recognized to be feasible techniques for mitigation of carbon dioxide emission for the earth environment. Due to large capacity and availability of geological formations for most countries, the geological storage methods are well-developed and many sites are on the stage for possible large-scale operations. Numerical simulations of CO₂ migration in geological formations can provide key information for predicting CO₂ plume, before field-scale operations and tests are conducted. This study employs TOUGH2 numerical model to predict CO₂ migration in a saline aquifer (Nanchuang and Kueichulin Formations) in north Taiwan. A preprocess computer code for irregular mesh generation is developed to create input information for ECO2N module in the TOUGH2 model. The two-dimensional profile model is 20 km in length and is 2 km in depth. However, the aquifer thickness for each formation varies from hundreds to several hundreds of meters. With constant injection of 200 metric ton of CO₂ in Kueichulin formation, the CO₂ plumes with different phases are simulated in 2 and 20 years. Simulation results show that the distances of the CO₂ plumes may move 1.2 km and 4.2 km for Nanchuang and Kueichulin formations from the injection point. The travel distances in vertical direction of CO₂ plumes may reach 0.5 km(Nanchuang Formation) and 1km(Kueichulin Formation) from injection point, respectively.