



## Effect of Temperature On The Dispersability Of The Grafted Acrylic Acid Onto Alumina Particles

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### Abstract

The ability of different alumina-grafted particles was examined for adsorption of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol under different conditions (i.e. concentrations and temperatures). Dispersion stability of alumina in liquid medium (water) was studied using settling under gravity technique. The result shows the settling initial rate of the alumina-grafted acrylic acid particles was faster than initial rate of settling when alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer adsorbed phenol and *p*-chlorophenol and vice versa to the alumina-graft poly(acrylic acid) polymer.

Thermodynamic parameters values ( $\Delta G$ ,  $\Delta S$ ,  $\Delta H$ ) were calculated for adsorption processes of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol adsorbed onto different surfaces. The results revealed that positive and negative values were obtained implying that both endothermic and exothermic adsorption reactions may took place.

**Key Words:**Polymers,Polymers Adsorption,graft Alumina

### Introduction

Adsorption of small molecules or polymeric materials onto solid surface plays an important role in a large number of practical applications, and provides good information about the physical and chemical properties of polymer in solution through their interaction with solid surface [1]. There are various factors that influence the adsorption process, such as chemical structure of the adsorbate, the nature of adsorbent, the solvent from which adsorption is made, and the type of anchoring groups [2].

In general when the concentration of adsorbate increases the capacity of adsorption increases [3]. In some cases, adsorption may be confined to only one layer of adsorbed molecules, i.e., only one molecule deep. Further adsorption ceases when the surface of the crystal lattice of adsorbent is covered [4]. The diagram representing the relationship between quantity adsorbed and the equilibrium concentration is called adsorption isotherm [5].

In physical adsorption, a decrease in temperature enhances the extent of adsorption. The decrease of adsorption with the increase of temperature implies by lechatelier's principle, that heat is evolved in the process of adsorption [6].

In chemisorptions, the quantity adsorbed may increase or decrease with rising temperature depending on the type of interaction and the bonding between the surface and the adsorbed molecules [7].

In most cases, chemisorptions require energy of activation. The amount of this energy is a function of type and the nature of adsorbate-adsorbent interaction and the concentration of adsorbate solution [8].

Natural water pollution by organic materials, such phenol and its derivatives which are the most harmful contamination, increases due to industrial activities and accidents.

In previous work, free radical polymerization was carried out onto alumina surface grafted with acrylic monomer. The later was chain extended by additional acrylic acid monomer in the presence of

benzoyl peroxide as initiator. The grafted monomer and polymer was characterized by different spectroscopic techniques, and was thermally analyzed [9].

In this paper, we studied the adsorption behavior to the standard alumina and to the compounds alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer and alumina-graft poly(acrylic acid) that we prepared at different temperatures and calculate thermodynamic parameters of the surface.

## Experimental

### Materials

Alumina, Alumina-grafted with acrylic acid monomer and Alumina-grafted poly(acrylic acid) polymer prepared and characterized as mentioned elsewhere [9].

### Determination of maximum adsorption ( $\lambda_{max}$ )

Ultra violet scanning spectrum of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol are recorded practically within the range (200-400) nm using (10 mm) width quartz. Wavelength values ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) corresponding to the maximum absorbance for phenol and *p*-chlorophenol were (270nm) (280nm), respectively.

Many solutions of different concentrations were prepared by serial solutions of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol. Absorbance values of these solutions were measured at specific ( $\lambda_{max}$ ) values for phenol and *p*-chlorophenol. In order to obtain the calibration curves of the (phenol and *p*-chlorophenol) solutions, the absorbency values plotted versus the concentration for both of them. The concentration range that falls in the region of applicability of Beer-Lambert's law was estimated and then used for subsequent determinations.

The amount of adsorbed phenol and *p*-chlorophenol was calculated from the initial and final concentration and the volume of solution. by the equation:-

$$Q_e = \frac{V(C_o - C_e)}{m} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

Where:

$Q_e$  : quantity of adsorbate

$V$ : volume of solution (ml).

$C_o$ : initial concentration (mg/ml).

$C_e$ : equilibrium concentration (mg/ml).

Adsorption uptake is expressed by the ratio ( $x/m$ ) {also called  $Q_e$  which is defined as the quantity of adsorbate in (mg) held by (0.2) g of adsorbent} at certain conditions (temperature, pH). ( $Q_e$ ) values were plotted versus the equilibrium concentrations ( $C_e$ ); the resulting diagrams are the adsorption isotherms that required for understanding and interpreting the systems under investigation [9].

## Results and discussion

Studying the effect of temperatures on adsorption of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol were examined on the surfaces under study { standard alumina, alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer, and alumina-graft poly(acrylic acid)} at four temperatures (10, 25, 40, and 55) °C. The results are listed in tables (1), (2) and (3) which, show the experimental data for all adsorbent surface

As shown from these tables, adsorption of phenol increased on the surfaces of alumina-grafted acrylic acid monomer and alumina-grafted poly (acrylic acid), when the temperature increased, while the adsorption of phenol decreased on the surfaces of standard alumina when temperature increased. On the other hand adsorption of *p*-chlorophenol on the surfaces was increased for standard alumina and alumina-graft poly (acrylic acid) as the temperature increased, and the adsorption decreased only on the surface of alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer when temperature increased.

Increasing the adsorption with increase temperature indicates that the adsorption is endothermic process; the molecules get a place on the crystal net work of the surface, and diffusion speed increase when temperature increases. These results include absorption and adsorption processes together and the dominant process is adsorption [10, 11].



The decrease in adsorption with the increase of temperature, the process is considered as an exothermic process, and that will be agreed with thermodynamic properties for adsorption [12].

### Thermodynamic parameters

The enthalpy ( $\Delta H$ ) of adsorption of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol were calculated using the known thermodynamic equations [9]. The results are shown in table (4). Examining table (4) reveals quite clearly that the adsorption of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol on the surfaces of the materials under studying having both types of endothermic and exothermic processes.

The values of enthalpy ( $\Delta H$ ) of the phenol adsorption onto alumina particles surface, alumina-grafted acrylic acid monomer and alumina-grafted poly(acrylic acid) are negative. This implies that the adsorption process is exothermic, whereas positive values were obtained for ( $\Delta H$ ) indicating an endothermic type of adsorption for phenol onto alumina-grafted poly (acrylic acid).

The values of ( $\Delta G$ ) for all surfaces are positive this indicates that the adsorption process is non-spontaneous. Values of ( $\Delta S$ ) are negative and positive for surfaces adsorbate phenol and *p*-chlorophenol. The negative value gives proof that the adsorbate molecules may arrange themselves on the surface as consequence of binding, so that adsorbate molecules will be more regulate than in solution. But the positive value of ( $\Delta S$ ) means that adsorbate molecules are less regulate than in solution when absorption and adsorption processes are together [13].

The ( $\Delta H$ ) values of *p*-chlorophenol for standard alumina and alumina-grafted poly(acrylic acid) surfaces are positive and to the alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer is negative, but ( $\Delta G$ ) values for all surfaces are positive implies that adsorption process proceeds non-spontaneous.

( $\Delta S$ ) Values to standard alumina, alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer, and to alumina-graft poly(acrylic acid) are negative. The above results lead to concede that the phenol molecules as adsorbate have better conformation onto different adsorbent surfaces comparing to the other adsorbed molecules, i.e. *p*-chlorophenol, this may explained in term of the size and polarity of the later adsorbate molecules.

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**Table (1): The effect of temperature on adsorption of phenol and p-chlorophenol on Alumina surface**

| Phenol    |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           | 10 °C     |           | 25 °C     |           | 40 °C     |           | 55 °C     |           |
| Co (mg/L) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) |
| 100       | 86.07     | 0.696     | 86.12     | 0.694     | 89.09     | 0.545     | 88.37     | 0.581     |
| 125       | 106.77    | 0.911     | 106.81    | 0.909     | 109.92    | 0.754     | 108.86    | 0.807     |
| 150       | 123.07    | 1.346     | 122.56    | 1.372     | 128.61    | 1.069     | 125.15    | 1.242     |
| 175       | 152.91    | 1.104     | 152.90    | 1.105     | 150.84    | 1.208     | 156.30    | 0.935     |
| 200       | 184.20    | 0.790     | 182.99    | 0.850     | 168.71    | 1.564     | 175.09    | 1.245     |
| 225       | 184.66    | 2.017     | 188.41    | 1.829     | 200.88    | 1.206     | 194.16    | 1.542     |
| 250       | 210.42    | 1.979     | 221.90    | 1.405     | 221.93    | 1.403     | 228.47    | 1.076     |

| <i>p</i> -Clorophenol |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                       | 10 °C     |           | 25 °C     |           | 40 °C     |           | 55 °C     |           |
| Co (mg/L)             | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) |
| 100                   | 75.74     | 1.213     | 92.63     | 0.368     | 91.20     | 0.440     | 89.66     | 0.517     |
| 125                   | 99.37     | 1.281     | 117.13    | 0.393     | 114.13    | 0.543     | 112.34    | 0.633     |
| 150                   | 120.39    | 1.480     | 136.40    | 0.680     | 133.74    | 0.813     | 134.31    | 0.784     |
| 175                   | 105.51    | 3.474     | 148.27    | 1.336     | 127.54    | 2.373     | 124.00    | 2.550     |
| 200                   | 126.58    | 3.671     | 172.87    | 1.356     | 144.54    | 2.773     | 136.43    | 3.178     |
| 225                   | 138.74    | 4.313     | 192.16    | 1.642     | 150.47    | 3.726     | 146.76    | 3.912     |
| 250                   | 153.02    | 4.849     | 213.16    | 1.842     | 182.74    | 3.363     | 172.98    | 3.851     |

**Table (2): The effect of temperature on adsorption of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol on alumina-graft acrylic acid monomer surface**

| Phenol    |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           | 10 °C     |           | 25 °C     |           | 40 °C     |           | 55 °C     |           |
| Co (mg/L) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) |
| 100       | 82.79     | 0.860     | 87.11     | 0.644     | 88.40     | 0.580     | 88.45     | 0.577     |
| 125       | 102.34    | 1.133     | 104.90    | 1.005     | 114.42    | 0.529     | 107.07    | 0.896     |
| 150       | 118.26    | 1.587     | 124.35    | 1.282     | 112.17    | 1.391     | 122.32    | 1.384     |
| 175       | 131.74    | 2.163     | 132.62    | 2.119     | 127.73    | 2.363     | 139.13    | 1.793     |
| 200       | 72.03     | 6.398     | 148.34    | 2.583     | 173.98    | 1.301     | 173.13    | 1.343     |
| 225       | 83.43     | 7.078     | 184.99    | 2.000     | 183.54    | 2.073     | 174.32    | 2.534     |
| 250       | 102.28    | 7.386     | 204.08    | 2.295     | 202.01    | 2.399     | 187.14    | 3.143     |

| <i>p</i> -Clorophenol |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                       | 10 °C     |           | 25 °C     |           | 40 °C     |           | 55 °C     |           |
| Co (mg/L)             | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) |
| 100                   | 84.27     | 0.786     | 78.93     | 1.053     | 88.59     | 0.570     | 88.33     | 0.583     |
| 125                   | 102.20    | 1.138     | 100.52    | 1.224     | 107.16    | 0.892     | 110.89    | 0.705     |
| 150                   | 123.08    | 1.346     | 121.69    | 1.415     | 132.40    | 0.880     | 134.06    | 0.797     |
| 175                   | 136.51    | 1.924     | 113.82    | 3.059     | 132.34    | 2.133     | 148.87    | 1.306     |
| 200                   | 141.14    | 2.943     | 137.94    | 3.103     | 162.23    | 1.888     | 171.49    | 1.425     |
| 225                   | 149.71    | 3.764     | 154.34    | 3.533     | 166.98    | 2.901     | 198.89    | 1.305     |
| 250                   | 176.23    | 3.688     | 180.36    | 3.481     | 195.45    | 2.727     | 199.65    | 2.517     |

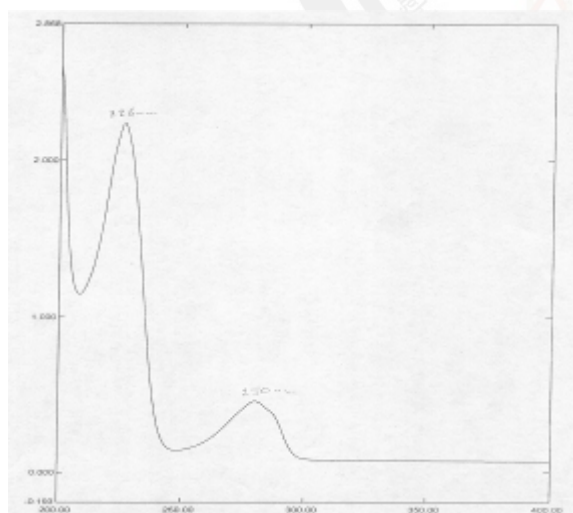
**Table (3): The effect of temperature on adsorption of phenol and *p*-chlorophenol on polymer (A) surface**

| Phenol    |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           | 10 °C     |           | 25 °C     |           | 40 °C     |           | 55 °C     |           |
| Co (mg/L) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) | Ce (mg/L) | Qe (mg/g) |
| 100       | 94.90     | 0.255     | 79.50     | 1.025     | 78.94     | 1.053     | 72.98     | 1.351     |
| 125       | 118.14    | 0.343     | 102.93    | 1.103     | 104.02    | 1.049     | 97.60     | 1.370     |
| 150       | 127.91    | 1.104     | 115.21    | 1.739     | 117.32    | 1.634     | 110.90    | 1.955     |
| 175       | 130.34    | 2.233     | 120.49    | 2.725     | 129.29    | 2.285     | 111.29    | 3.185     |
| 200       | 173.70    | 1.315     | 166.56    | 1.672     | 156.22    | 2.189     | 149.98    | 2.501     |
| 225       | 178.38    | 2.331     | 200.20    | 1.240     | 186.34    | 1.933     | 171.06    | 2.697     |
| 250       | 209.17    | 2.041     | 202.72    | 2.364     | 202.42    | 2.379     | 191.77    | 2.911     |

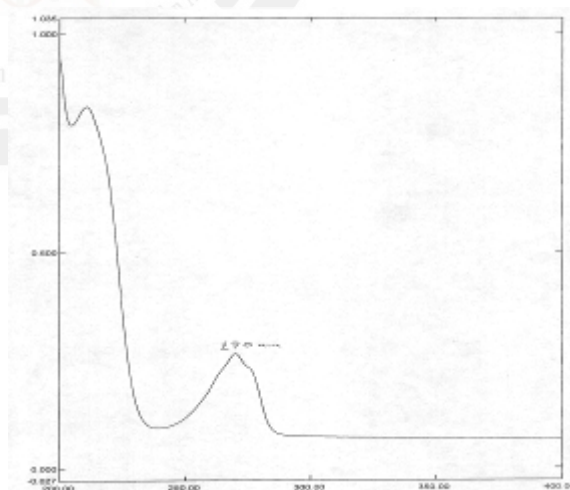
| <i>p</i> -Clorophenol |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                       | 10 °C        |              | 25 °C        |              | 40 °C        |              | 55 °C        |              |
| Co<br>(mg/L)          | Ce<br>(mg/L) | Qe<br>(mg/g) | Ce<br>(mg/L) | Qe<br>(mg/g) | Ce<br>(mg/L) | Qe<br>(mg/g) | Ce<br>(mg/L) | Qe<br>(mg/g) |
| 100                   | 80.56        | 0.972        | 82.00        | 0.900        | 84.21        | 0.789        | 77.30        | 1.135        |
| 125                   | 95.22        | 1.489        | 98.49        | 1.325        | 102.08       | 1.146        | 101.82       | 1.159        |
| 150                   | 114.00       | 1.800        | 121.81       | 1.409        | 123.61       | 1.319        | 118.89       | 1.555        |
| 175                   | 130.16       | 2.242        | 127.80       | 2.360        | 137.83       | 1.858        | 134.75       | 2.012        |
| 200                   | 142.91       | 2.854        | 148.13       | 2.593        | 150.38       | 2.481        | 141.09       | 2.945        |
| 225                   | 178.54       | 2.323        | 167.69       | 2.865        | 173.45       | 2.577        | 152.69       | 3.615        |
| 250                   | 205.45       | 2.227        | 188.73       | 3.063        | 183.65       | 3.317        | 174.23       | 3.788        |

**Table (4): Thermodynamic data to adsorption phenol and *p*-chlorophenol at the surfaces under study at 25 °C**

| Surfaces                                    | Phenol                 |                        |                         | <i>p</i> -Clorophenol  |                        |                         |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | $\Delta H$<br>(KJ/mol) | $\Delta G$<br>(KJ/mol) | $\Delta S$<br>(J/mol.K) | $\Delta H$<br>(KJ/mol) | $\Delta G$<br>(KJ/mol) | $\Delta S$<br>(J/mol.K) |
| <b>Standard Alumina</b>                     | -6.466                 | 11.982                 | -0.062                  | 28.268                 | 11.642                 | 0.056                   |
| <b>Alumina-grafted acrylic acid monomer</b> | -78.512                | 11.345                 | -0.301                  | -15.872                | 9.819                  | 0.020                   |
| <b>Alumina-grafted poly(acrylic acid)</b>   | 10.392                 | 12.470                 | 0.003                   | 9.238                  | 10.105                 | -0.003                  |



**Fig. (2): Scanning spectrum of *p*-chlorophenol**



**Fig.(1): Scanning spectrum of phenol**

## تأثير التغيير في درجات الحرارة على انتشارية حامض الاكرليك المطعم بين جزئيات الالومينا

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### الخلاصة

تم في هذه الدراسة اختبار قابلية سطوح جسيمات الالومينا ، الالومينا المطعم بمونمر حامض الاكرليك و الالومينا المطعم ببولي (حامض الاكرليك) لامتزاز جزئيات الفينول وباراكلوروفينول تحت ظروف مختلفة من درجات الحرارة . وتم حساب الدوال الترموديناميكية ( $\Delta H, \Delta S, \Delta G$ ) لعملية امتزاز الفينول والباراكلوروفينول على السطوح قيد الدراسة وأظهرت النتائج قيم موجبة وأخرى سالبة دلالة على حدوث عمليات امتزاز محبة للحرارة وأخرى باعثة للحرارة.

الكلمات المفتاحية:البوليمرات،امتزاز البوليمرات،الالومينا المطعم