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# STUDY OF ADSORPTION OF DRUG AND CALCULATION OF FREUNDLICH ADSORPTION ISOTHERM

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#### ARTICLE INFO

# ABSTRACT

#### **Research Article**

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Adsorption is the adhesion of atoms, ions, or molecules from a gas, liquid, or dissolved solid to a surface. Adsorption is a surface-based process while absorption involves the whole volume of the material. The term sorption encompasses both processes, while desorption is the reverse of it. Adsorption is a surface phenomenon. The aim of present study was to study the effect of adsorbent (charcoal) on the adsorption of oxalic acid. It can be concluded that Cs increases exponentially with increases in Y and log K value was 0.148 and 1/n was equal to 0.674.

Keywords: Solubility, oxalic acid, Charcoal, Adsorption

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## INTRODUCTION

This process creates a film of the adsorbate on the surface of the adsorbent. This process differs from absorption, in which a fluid (the absorbate) is dissolved by or permeates a liauid or solid (the absorbent), respectively. Adsorption is a surfacebased process while absorption involves the whole volume of the material. The term sorption encompasses both processes, while desorption is the reverse of it. Adsorption is a surface phenomenon [1-4].

Similar to surface tension, adsorption is a consequence of surface energy. In a bulk material, all the bonding requirements (be they ionic, covalent, or metallic) of the constituent atoms of the material are filled by other atoms in the material. However, atoms on the surface of the adsorbent are not wholly surrounded by other adsorbent atoms and therefore can attract adsorbates. The exact nature of the bonding depends on the details of the species involved, but the adsorption process is generally classified as physisorption (characteristic of weak van der Waals forces) or chemisorptions (characteristic of covalent bonding). It may also occur due to electrostatic attraction [4-6].

Adsorption is present in many natural, physical, biological, and chemical systems, and is widely used in industrial applications such as activated charcoal, capturing and using waste heat to provide cold water for air conditioning and other process requirements (adsorption chillers), synthetic resins, increase storage capacity of carbide-derived carbons, and water purification. Adsorption, ion exchange, and chromatography are sorption processes in which certain adsorbates are selectively transferred from the fluid phase to the surface of insoluble, rigid particles suspended in a vessel or packed in a column. Pharmaceutical industry applications, which use adsorption as a means to prolong neurological exposure to specific drugs or parts thereof, are lesser known. The word "adsorption" was coined in 1881 by German physicist Heinrich Kayser (1853-1940) [5-9].

The Freundlich equation or Freundlich adsorption isotherm, an adsorption isotherm, is an empirical relation between the concentrations of a solute on the surface of an adsorbent to the concentration of the solute in the liquid with which it is in contact. In 1909, Herbert Freundlich gave an expression representing the isothermal variation of adsorption of a quantity of gas adsorbed by unit mass of solid adsorbent with pressure. This equation is known as Freundlich adsorption isotherm or Freundlich adsorption equation. As this relationship is entirely empirical, in the case where adsorption behavior can be properly fit by isotherms with a theoretical basis, it is usually appropriate to use such isotherms instead (see for example the Langmuir and BET adsorption theories) [6-9].

#### Freundlich adsorption isotherm

Example of the Freundlich isotherm [7-9], showing the amount adsorbed, q (e.g., in mol/kg), as a function of

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# equilibrium concentration in the solution, c (e.g., in mol/L). The graph is for the values of the constants of K=4 and 1/n=0.6.

The Freundlich adsorption isotherm is mathematically expressed as

x/m=Kp<sup>1/n</sup>

It is also written as

Logx/m=logK+1/n logp

or

x/m=Kc<sup>1/n</sup>

It is also written as

Logx/m=logK+1/n logc

Where,

x = mass of adsorb ate

*m* = mass of adsorbent

*p* = Equilibrium pressure of adsorbate

*c* = Equilibrium concentration of adsorbate in solution.

K and n are constants for a given adsorbate and adsorbent at a particular temperature.

At high pressure 1/n = 0, hence extent of adsorption becomes independent of pressure.

It is used in cases where the actual identity of the solute is not known, such as adsorption of colored material from sugar, vegetable oil etc.

# Limitation of Freundlich adsorption isotherm

Experimentally it was determined that extent of adsorption varies directly with pressure and then it directly varies with pressure raised to the power 1/n until saturation pressure Ps is reached. Beyond that point rate of adsorption saturates even after applying higher pressure [7-9].

# Langmuir equation

Irving Langmuir [9-11] was the first to derive a scientifically based adsorption isotherm in 1918 [7].

Often a compound (A) remains relatively more concentrated upon the interface in a heterogeneous system. The result in the concentration of A, in the vicinity of the interface is different from that in the bulk. This phenomenon is called adsorption and it is necessarily related to the surface. [9-11].

The aim of present study was to study the effect of adsorbent on the adsorption of oxalic acid.

# Materials & Methods:

Oxalic acid, Charcoal,  $KMnO_4$  and  $H_2SO_4$  were purchased from Merck Company, Germany. All chemicals and reagents used in this study were of analytical grade and obtained from Merck Company, Germany.

250 ml of five conical flasks were taken and labeled them 1 to 5. 2 gm of adsorbent (activated charcoal) was weighing accurately and added to each conical flask separately. Specified amount of oxalic acid solution (N/2) and distilled water were pipetted out into each flask as stated to the table 1.

| Flask no.                      | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|--------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Volume of N/2 Oxalic acid (ml) | 100 | 80 | 60 | 40 | 20 |
| Volume of distilled water (ml) | 0   | 20 | 40 | 60 | 20 |

Table 1: oxalic acid solution (N/2) and distilled water were pipetted out into each flask

But here the total volume was made upto 100 ml by adding water after taking oxalic acid which is mentioned in table 1. Then the flask was shaken for 30 min to attain equilibrium. It was then filtered through dry filter paper. 10 ml of filtrate was taken and 150 ml dilute  $H_2SO_4$  (=20ml concentration  $H_2SO_4$  was added. It was warmed to 60-80°C and titrated against standardized (N/10) KMnO<sub>4</sub> solution. Then the amount of oxalic acid initially present (Co), amount of oxalic acid left per 100 ml of filtrate (Cs), and amount of oxalic acid absorbed per gm of adsorbent were calculated. Y=(Co-Cs)/ Weight of adsorbent Results & Discussion: Normality of oxalic acid=1 (N/2) Normality of KMnO4 Solution=1.01 (N/10) Equivalent weight of oxalic acid=63  $H_2SO_4$ =1:2 100ml of N/2 oxalic acid-(63\*100\*1/2)/1000=3.15 gm of oxalic acid

#### Flask no. Volume of stock Initial concentration of solution taken (ml) oxalic acid (Co-gm/100ml) 1 100 3.15gm/100ml 2 80 2.52 gm/100ml 3 60 1.89gm/100ml 4 40 1.26 gm/100ml 5 20 0.63 gm/100ml

#### Table 2: Initial concentration of oxalic acid in each (Co/100ml)

## Table 3: Final concentration of oxalic acid after left adsorption

| Flask no. | Volume of    | Volume of | Strength of Oxalic | Strength of | Final concentration of |  |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|------------------------|--|
|           | titrate (ml) | KMnO4     | acid (N)           | KMnO4       | oxalic acid left       |  |
|           |              | required  |                    |             | [Cs=(N*0.63)gm/100ml]  |  |
| 1         | 10           | 40.5      | 0.409              | 0.101 (N)   | 2.55                   |  |
| 2         |              | 31.8      | 0.321              |             | 2.023                  |  |
| 3         |              | 23.1      | 0.233              |             | 1.469                  |  |
| 4         |              | 15.1      | 0.152              |             | 0.95                   |  |
| 5         |              | 7.1       | 0.071              |             | 0.45                   |  |

#### Table 4: Amount of oxalic acid absorbed per gm of adsorbent (Y)

| Flask no. | (Co-Cs) gm/100ml | Y=[(Co-Cs)/2] gm/100ml |
|-----------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1         | 0.6              | 0.3                    |
| 2         | 0.497            | 0.248                  |
| 3         | 0.421            | 0.2105                 |
| 4         | 0.31             | 0.155                  |
| 5         | 0.18             | 0.09                   |



Figure 1: Graphical relationship in between the amount of oxalic acid absorbed per gm of adsorbent (Y) vs final concentration of oxalic acid after left adsorption

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Table 4: Amount of oxalic acid absorbed per gm of adsorbent (Y) and final concentration of oxalic acid after left adsorption with their logarithmic values

| Flask no. | Y     | Cs    | logY   | logY+2 | Log C <sub>s</sub> | Log C <sub>s</sub> +2 |
|-----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1         | 0.3   | 2.55  | -0.522 | 1.477  | 0.406              | 2.407                 |
| 2         | 0.249 | 2.02  | -0.603 | 1.396  | 0.305              | 2.306                 |
| 3         | 0.210 | 1.469 | -0.677 | 1.322  | 0.167              | 2.167                 |
| 4         | 0.155 | 0.95  | -0.809 | 1.19   | -0.02              | 1.978                 |
| 5         | 0.09  | 0.45  | -1.045 | 0.954  | -0.34              | 1.653                 |

From the Freundlich isotherm: Y=KC<sup>1/n</sup> Or, log Y=logk+1/n logC From graph, Slope 1/n=0.674 LogY=logK+0.65 log Cs Log k=0.148



Figure 2: Graphical relationship in between the amount of oxalic acid absorbed per gm of adsorbent (Y) vs final concentration of oxalic acid after left adsorption in logarithmic scale

The surface of the substance of which adsorption occurs is the adsorbent and the substance absorbed is termed as adsorbate. The relation between the amount adsorbed by an adsorbent and the pressure or concentration of adsorbate at a constant temperature is called the adsorption isotherm. The relation between the amount of solute adsorbed from the solution per gm of adsorbent (y) and the equilibrium concentration (C) of the solute is  $Y=kc^{1/n}$  or log Y=logk+1/n log C. K and c are empirical constant depending on the system and temperature. From the graphs (figure 1 & 2), it can be concluded that Cs increases exponentially with increases in Y. It can be concluded that Cs increases exponentially with increases in Y and log K value was 0.148 and 1/n was equal to 0.674.

The model applies to gases adsorbed on solid surfaces. It is a semi-empirical isotherm with a kinetic basis and was derived based on statistical thermodynamics. It is the most common isotherm equation to use due to its simplicity and its ability to fit a variety of adsorption data. It is based on four assumptions [8-11]:

**1.** All of the adsorption sites are equivalent and each site can only accommodate one molecule.

**2.** The surface is energetically homogeneous and adsorbed molecules do not interact.

**3.** There are no phase transitions.

**4.** At the maximum adsorption, only a monolayer is formed. Adsorption only occurs on localized sites on the surface, not with other adsorbates.

These four assumptions are seldom all true: there are always imperfections on the surface, adsorbed molecules are not necessarily inert, and the mechanism is clearly not the same for the very first molecules to adsorb to a surface as for the last. The fourth condition

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is the most troublesome, as frequently more molecules will adsorb to the monolayer; this problem is addressed by the BET isotherm for relatively flat (nonmicroporous) surfaces. The Langmuir isotherm is nonetheless the first choice for most models of adsorption, and has many applications in surface kinetics (usually called Langmuir–Hinshelwood kinetics) and thermodynamics.

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