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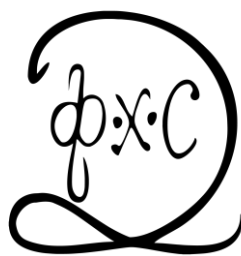
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PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY 2022

*16th International Conference on
Fundamental and Applied Aspects of
Physical Chemistry*

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Serbia*

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and

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CO₂ CAPTURE BY AMINE POROUS POLYMERIC SORBENT

B. M. Marković, T. T. Tadić, A. B. Nastasović, N. Radić and Z. M. Vuković

*University of Belgrade, Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy,
Njegoševa 12, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia. (bojana.markovic@ihtm.bg.ac.rs)*

ABSTRACT

In this report, magnetic porous polymer functionalized with pentaethylenehexamine (mP-PEHA) was tested as CO₂ sorbent. The sorbent mP-PEHA was characterized by Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy in ATR mode (FTIR-ATR), scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and mercury porosimetry. CO₂ adsorption was determined using a pulse gas chromatographic method. At optimal adsorption conditions (20 °C), the CO₂ sorption capacity reached 10.8 ml CO₂/g (0.48 mmol CO₂/g). Temperature-programmed desorption (TPD) experiments were conducted to calculate the activation energy of CO₂ desorption. Low activation energy (18.34 kJ/mol) and high desorption rate, with a stable uptake in five adsorption/desorption cycles, suggest mP-PEHA as potentially excellent sorbent for CO₂ absorption.

INTRODUCTION

The increasing anthropogenic carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission is considered as the main cause of global warming. Various types of adsorbents can be potentially used for CO₂ captures, such as zeolites, porous organic polymers (POPs), porous carbons, and mesoporous materials [1]. The introduction of various amine groups into porous materials results in sorbents with high CO₂ capture capacity, selectivity, regenerability, and stability [2]. In this study, CO₂ adsorption/desorption performances of chemically stable pentaethylenehexamine (PEHA)-grafted magnetic porous polymer (mP-PEHA) with adjustable surface chemistry and pore structure were tested. The CO₂ uptake, thermodynamics and kinetics and adsorption/desorption cycle stability were determined. The performance of mP-PEHA was investigated over a range of CO₂ partial pressures.

EXPERIMENTAL

Magnetic porous polymer (mP) was prepared following the procedure described elsewhere [3]. Post-functionalization of mP with pentaethylenehexamine (PEHA) was done in a typical procedure, i.e., 7.2 g of mP and 17.7 g of PEHA were added to 300 ml of toluene and heated under stirring at 80 °C for 6 h. The sample mP-PEHA was filtered, washed with ethanol, and dried under vacuum at 40 °C. The amino groups content (C_{AG}) was determined as described in the literature [3]. FTIR-ATR spectra were taken in the range 4000–400 cm⁻¹ using a Nicolet 380 spectrometer. The scanning electron microscopy (SEM) micrographs were obtained on JEOL JSM-6460LV. Pore size distributions were collected by a high-pressure mercury intrusion porosimeter Carlo Erba Porosimeter 2000 (Washington, USA, software Milestone 200). The porosity parameters (specific pore volume, V_p , pore diameter which corresponds to half of the pore volume, $D_{V/2}$, and specific surface area, $S_{s,Hg}$) were determined as described in the literature [4].

The CO₂ uptake measurements were performed using a pulse gas chromatographic method. CO₂ desorption was obtained by temperature programmed desorption tests with constant carrier gas stream flow. The experiments were performed on sample mP-PEHA (0.0150 g) in dynamic conditions in a flow system. The content of CO₂ was analyzed online by GC Shimadzu 8a, equipped with a TCD detector using a stainless steel column; 6.5 ft. long and 1/8 in. in diameter, containing 80/100 mesh HayeSep D. For adsorption experiments, the sample was exposed to pulses

of 0.1 ml CO₂ inserted into carrier gas stream (He - 2400 ml/h) at 20 °C. For temperature-programmed desorption tests, the sample was saturated with CO₂ at 20 °C. After that, desorption was performed at heating rates of 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 °C/min, in the temperature range 20-200 °C with holding of temperature at 200 °C for 2 min. For determination of regeneration stability of mP-PEHA five CO₂ adsorption-desorption cycles were performed, consisting of CO₂ adsorption at 20 °C until saturation, and desorption at 20 to 200 °C (heating rate 30 °C/min), with 2 minutes of retention at 200 °C. After each desorption, for the next cycle, the sample was cooled to an initial adsorption temperature of 20 °C. The reproducibility of the results was verified by performing each test several times.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Characterization of the sorbent

Since the practical application and CO₂ adsorption performances of amino-functionalized porous sorbents strongly depend on their characteristics such as morphology, particle chemistry (amine groups content and location), and pore structure (specific surface area, specific pore volume, pore size, and distribution), a detailed characterization of mP-PEHA was done. In FTIR-ATR spectra (Figure 1a), peaks confirming amino-functionalization are clearly visible, i.e. peaks for $\delta(\text{NH})$ and shoulder $\delta(\text{NH}_2)$, at $\sim 1570\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $\sim 1650\text{ cm}^{-1}$, respectively. Also, the magnetic nature of the sorbent is corroborated with the peak for Fe-O vibrations at $\sim 590\text{ cm}^{-1}$ [3].

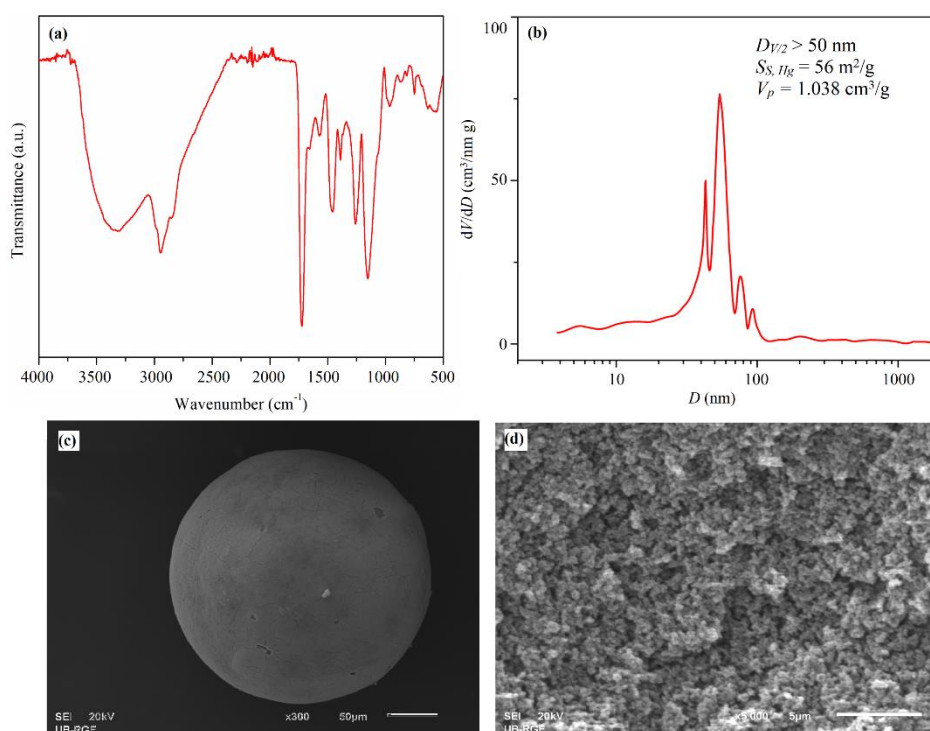


Figure 1. FTIR spectra (a), differential curve of the pore size distribution (b) and SEM microphotographs of particle surface (c) and cross-section (d) for mP-PEHA.

The differential curve of pore volume distribution curves and calculated porosity parameters are given in Figure 1b. As seen, mP-PEHA is macroporous in nature ($D_{V/2} > 50\text{ nm}$) with $S_{S, Hg} = 56\text{ m}^2/\text{g}$ and $V_p = 1.038\text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$. SEM images of mP-PEHA show a regular globular shape and smooth surface of the particles (Figure 1c), as well as a highly developed three dimensional internal porous

structure composed of a large number of globules and opened pores at the particle cross-section (Figure 1d).

CO₂ Adsorption tests

After successive insertion of a small constant volume of CO₂, polymer mP-PEHA had an adsorption capacity of 10.76 ml CO₂/g (0.48 mmol CO₂/g) which corresponds to the normalized value per unit area of 0.19 ml CO₂/m² (8.57 10⁻³ mmol CO₂/m²).

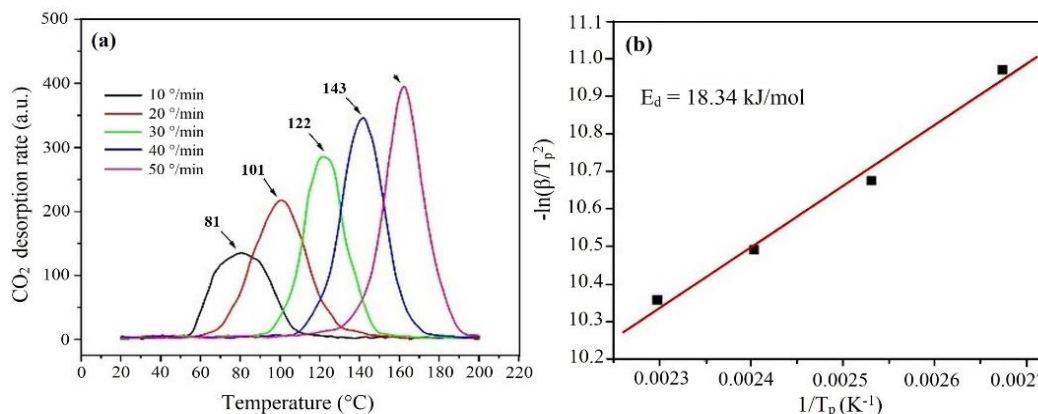


Figure 2. CO₂ desorption vs. temperature (a), relationship between the maximum desorption temperature (T_p) and the heating rate (β) for CO₂ desorption (b) from mP-PEHA [adsorption conditions: He flow rate, 2400 mL/h; adsorption temperature, 20 °C; desorption conditions: carrier gas (He) flow rate, 2400 mL/h; temperature regime: linear increase from 20 to 200 °C, holding at 200 °C for 2 min, heating rates 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 °C/min; sorbent mass: 0.0150 g].

A series of TPD experiments were conducted at different heating rates (Figure 2a). A plot $\ln(RT_p^2/\beta) - 1/T_p$ (Figure 2b) was obtained according to the equation (1) [5]:

$$\ln\left(\frac{RT_p^2}{\beta}\right) = \frac{E_d}{R}\left(\frac{1}{T_p}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{E_d}{k_0}\right) \quad (1)$$

where: R is the gas constant, T_p is the peak temperature, β is the heating rate (K/min), E_d is the activation energy for desorption (kJ/mol) and k_0 is the desorption rate coefficient (min⁻¹).

From a linear relationship with a high correlation coefficient ($R^2=0.994$) (Figure 2b), the activation energy of desorption was calculated to be ~ 18 kJ/mol. Polymer mP-PEHA showed comparable CO₂ adsorption capacity but lower CO₂ desorption energies than their analog amine-modified commercial zeolites [6]. The molecular structures of the amines and their reactions with CO₂ are the main factors affecting polymer properties in CO₂ capture. Thus, the good adsorption-desorption properties of mP-PEHA were attributed to the optimal molecular structure of pentaethylenehexamine which is the main constituent of this polymer. The low activation energies obtained for CO₂ desorption indicate a high CO₂ desorption rate and fast surface regeneration for the energy-saving applications of mP-PEHA in CO₂ capture.

Multiple CO₂ adsorption-desorption cyclic tests were performed to evaluate possible practical applications. As seen (Figure 3), mP-PEHA exhibited high performance in terms of efficient and

cyclic regeneration, since adsorption capacity maintained almost the same after five successive adsorption-desorption cycles.

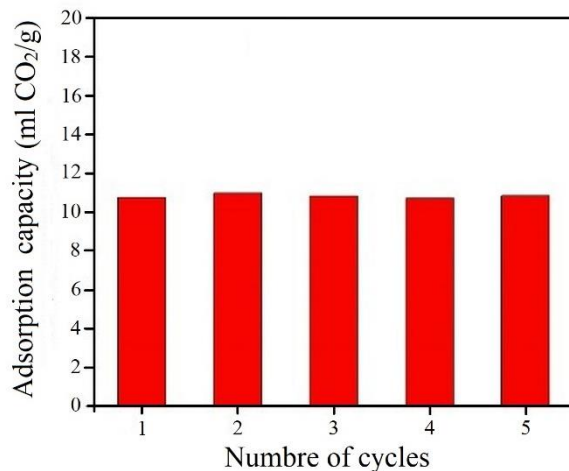


Figure 3. Adsorption-desorption properties of mP-PEHA in repeated cycles of CO₂ adsorption.

CONCLUSION

CO₂ adsorption-desorption properties of mP-PEHA suggests potentially excellent sorbent with a CO₂ adsorption capacity of 10.76 ml CO₂/g (0.48 mmol CO₂/g). It was shown that mP-PEHA could be regenerated successfully in the temperature range from 81 to 162 °C, with a stable uptake of ~10.8 ml CO₂/g (0.48 mmol CO₂/g) in five adsorption/desorption cycles. The obtained results showed that CO₂ adsorption on mP-PEHA is comparable to amine-modified commercial materials, Moreover, mP-PEHA showed easier and faster desorption, without reducing the adsorption capacity.

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