

# **THERMODYNAMIC INTERPRETATION OF ADSORPTION OF SOME BENZENETRICARBOXYLIC AND DIHYDROXYBENZOIC ACIDS AT THE $\alpha$ -ALUMINA/ELECTROLYTE INTERFACE**

Jayanta M. Borah and Sekh Mahiuddin\*

*Materials Science Division, North-East Institute of Science and  
Technology, (Formerly Regional Research Laboratory), CSIR,  
Jorhat-785 006, Assam  
E-mail: mahirrljt@yahoo.com*

The feasibility of adsorption of a surface-active agent at the metal oxide/water interface can be predicted from the numerical values of thermodynamic parameters. The adsorption of benzenetricarboxylic and dihydroxybenzoic acids at the  $\alpha$ -alumina/water interface as functions of time, temperature and acid concentration is reported. The activation energy,  $E$ , for adsorption of these acids onto  $\alpha$ -alumina surfaces were calculated by using Arrhenius equation,  $k = Ae^{-E/RT}$ ;  $k$  is the rate constant,  $T$  the temperature in Kelvin and  $R$  the gas constant. The Gibbs free energy for adsorption,  $\Delta G$ , was estimated from the adsorption co-efficient, a parameter of the Langmuir adsorption equation,  $\Gamma = \Gamma_{max} C_2 / (K + C_2)$ , where  $K = 1/K_s$ ,  $K_s$  is the adsorption co-efficient, and  $\Gamma_{max}$  are the

adsorption density of adsorbate in  $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}$  at equilibrium and after saturation of  $\alpha$ -alumina surfaces and  $C_e$  is the concentrations of adsorbate at equilibrium.  $\Delta H$  was calculated from the van't Hoff equation for adsorption and  $\Delta S$  from the relation,  $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$ . The activation energies for the trimesic acid/ $\alpha$ -alumina, hemimellitic acid/ $\alpha$ -alumina and 3,4-dihydroxybenzoic acid/ $\alpha$ -alumina systems were found to be negative. For other two systems, trimellitic acid/ $\alpha$ -alumina and 2,3- dihydroxybenzoic acid/ $\alpha$ -alumina the activation energies are positive. For all systems  $\Delta G$  is negative and  $\Delta S$  is positive. The results imply that the adsorption for all these systems is spontaneous in nature. Negative activation energy indicates that the adsorption is more facile and due to available thermal energy to overcome the energy barrier.

OP-11

**PARTIAL MOLAR THERMODYNAMIC  
PROPERTIES OF CYCLOHEXANE + 1-  
ALCOHOLS + BRANCHED ALCOHOLS AND  
STRUCTURE BREAKING EFFECTS**

*Nilesh Vaghela\*, Sunil R Patel, Saurabh S Soni and*

*Nandhibatla V Sastry*

*Department of Chemistry, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh  
Vidyanagar 388120, Gujarat*