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**ACETONE AND BUTYL ACETATE SORPTION ONTO NATURAL MINERALS**

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Acetone and butyl acetate are organic solvents widely used in industry. They represent volatile organic compounds (VOC) which are often noxious or carcinogenic, having adverse effects on human health and global environment. VOCs are common air pollutants emitted by the chemical, petrochemical and allied industries.

The aim of the present work was to compare adsorption of gaseous acetone, butyl acetate and mixture of both contaminants onto natural mineral adsorbents. Materials used in the research included glauconite, diatomite, vermiculite and clinoptilolite received from BioDrain, denoted as GL, DI, VE and ZE respectively. Mineral compositions of sorbents are as follows:

GL: Illite and smectite 73%, Quartz 21%, K-feldspar 3%, Fluorapatite 2%, Other 1%;

DI: Opal A 94,5%, Cristobalite 2%, Mordenite 2%, Other 1,5%;

VE: Vermiculite and Biotite 60%, Illite and Smectite 24%, K-feldspar 5%, Calcite 3,5%, Plagioclase 3%, Fluorapatite 2%, Other 2,5%;

ZE: Clinoptilolite 74%, Opal C 11%, Plagioclase 6%, Illite and Smectite 4%, Opal CT 3%, Other 2%;

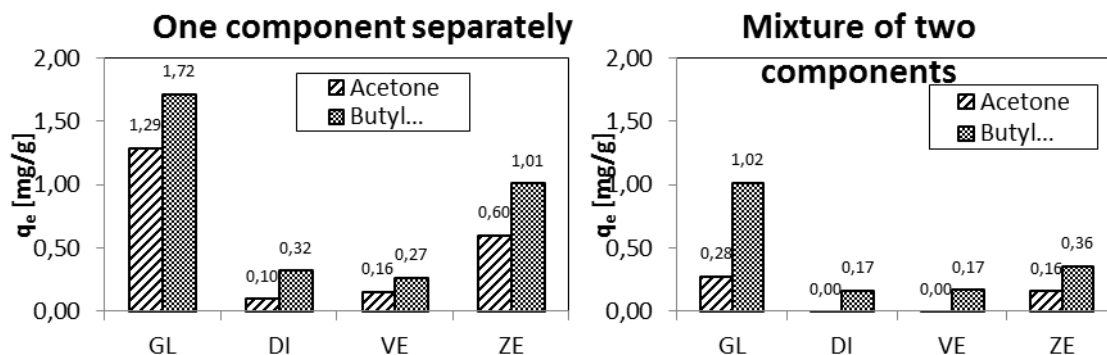


Figure 1. Sorption of acetone, butyl acetate and their mixture by raw natural sorbents: GL, DI, VE and ZE

Adsorption of acetone, butyl acetate and their mixture was carried out in dynamic conditions in a home-made system at constant temperature of 25°C and atmospheric pressure. The testing apparatus consists of a bottle with gas mixtures of specific concentrations (200 ppm or each of 100 ppm in mixture), fixed-bed column, flowmeter and concentration analyzer. A concentration of contaminants on column outlet was monitored on-line with a gas chromatograph (Thermo Scientific TRACE 1300 GC with column TR-5).

The amounts adsorbed by examined materials were calculated with the integral method on the basis of obtained breakthrough curves. The outcomes revealed higher affinity of sorbents for butyl acetate than acetone. It results from lower polarity (dipole moment) and greater molecular mass of butyl acetate.