



Adsorption Mechanism of Direct Red Dye on Cellulose Acetate from *Ananas comosus* Leaves

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ABSTRACT

The study describes the batch experiment on technical direct red dyes removal from aqueous solution which use cellulose acetate prepared from *Ananas comosus* leaves. The Adsorption investigations were carried out in various of time, adsorbent mass, adsorbate concentration, and temperature. The adsorption kinetics followed a pseudo second order reaction. The equilibrium adsorption data was best presented by the Freundlich isotherm. The calculated thermodynamic parameters indicate that the ongoing adsorption process was endothermic and non-spontaneous in nature.

Keywords: Direct red dye, Cellulose acetate, *Ananas comosus* leaves, Kinetics, Isotherm adsorption.

INTRODUCTION

Water pollution caused by untreated synthetic dye effluents released from textile industries has been concerned. The development of dye production relates the number of dye waste. The textile industry is the main contributor of dye waste into the environment. The characteristic of dye waste are base, hot, high of BOD and COD levels, and containing some dissolved solids. In the dyeing process the dye is partially absorbed by textile material, and the residue (2-50%) goes to water ways¹, or rarely be treated² One of synthetic dye which use in Indonesia textile industries generally is direct red. Direct red is a di-azo compound containing several sulfonate groups. It has a soluble nature in water, low price, and easy to use. Unfortunately, it consumes long time to

degrade, hence it potentially can be pollutant in water environment. Structure of direct red is shown in Figure. 1.

Many water pollutant treatment methods, such as coagulation, flocculation, photo catalytic degradation, membrane filtration, microbiological decomposition³, electrochemical oxidation,⁴ adsorption using fungi biosorbent⁵ have been applied. Adsorption is the process by which one substance (gas, liquid or solid) is taken into the body of another substance and the most popular method used to reduce dyes from waste water⁶, due to its economical and effectiveness removing a variety of pollutants including heavy metals, organic compounds and inorganic compounds⁷. Activated carbon has been reported as an ideal adsorbent to reduce the dye waste level in water. However, the

activated carbon is less economical, due to the high production and regeneration costs⁹. But the use of activated carbon still requires advanced treatment for suspension, so as not to make new waste⁹. Therefore, researchers began developing other cheaper adsorbents, such as bentonite, zeolite, and kaolin.

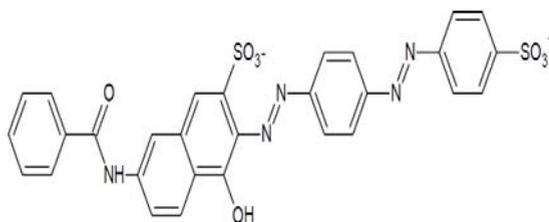


Fig.1. Direct red structure

Many materials have been used as adsorbents, such as diatomae^{10,11} and bentonite¹². Biological adsorbents such as egg shell powder,¹³ peanut shell,¹⁴ jackfruit leaf powder¹⁵ and banana peels¹⁶ have been used to adsorb dyes. Unfortunately, these adsorbents show very low ability in adsorbing dyes. Development of cheaper, more efficient, and environmentally friendly adsorbent are of interest..

Polymer is one of best adsorbents. The polymer produces less sediment in adsorption process and widely used in batch or column separation method. Poly(N, N-dimethyl aminoethyl metacrylate)¹⁷, polypyrrole,¹⁸ and poly(vinyl alcohol)¹⁹ have been developed as adsorbents for dye waste. On the other hand, cellulose acetate, a derivative of cellulose, can also be used as an adsorbent. Cellulose acetate is a biodegradable polymer; the membrane has a sufficiently high mechanical strength and transparency. In addition, cellulose acetate is used as electrolyte membrane, photographic film, and specialty papers.

Exhaustive exploration on the adsorption kinetics involving wastewater treatment is important to providing better understanding of the reaction pathways and possible mechanisms involved²⁰. We are reporting the use of cellulose acetate membrane obtained from leaves of pineapple (*Ananas comosus*) as an adsorbent to remove direct red in water. The equilibrium, kinetics and thermodynamics of dye adsorption by synthesized membranes are discussed

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

Pineapple (*Ananas comosus*) leaves, an agricultural waste, was obtained from pineapple farm in Yogyakarta. Toluene, ethanol, sulfuric acid, glacial acetic acid, sodium hydroxide, sodium hypochlorite, sodium chloride, pH buffer solution, technical direct red, and phenol-phthalien, and anhydride acetic acid were purchased from Merck and were used as received without any further purification.

Adsorbent preparation

Ananas comosus leaves were cut into small pieces and dried in the oven at 60°C and milled into powder. The cellulose was isolated by soaking the dry powder in a mixture of ethanol and toluene (1:2) for one hour. The cellulose was filter of and dried in 60°C for 3 h. The dry cellulose was solvated in 2 M sodium hydrochloride solution for 3 h to remove lignin, followed by bleaching process using sodium hypochlorite solution. Finally, the cellulose was acetylated using glacial acetic acid, sulfuric acid and anhydride acetic acid.^{21,22}

Adsorbent characterization

The adsorbent was characterized using FTIR method. The FTIR spectra of the cellulose acetate indicates functional groups of before and after adsorption. The Adsorption investigations were carried out in batch system in various of time, concentration of adsorbate, and temperature of adsorption. The adsorption measurements were conducted by mixing 0.5 g of adsorbent in a 100 cm³ Erlenmeyer containing 50 cm³ of dye solution of known concentration. The solutions were agitated using an automatic shaker for a certain of time, and the supernatant solution was separated from the adsorbent by filtration using a Whatman No. 41 filter paper. The residual dye concentrations were analyzed using UV-Vis Spectrometer at 496 nm wavelength.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Characterization of Adsorbent

The extraction of *Ananas comosus* leaves yielded 20.71% cellulose. The acetylation process of cellulose produce 37.28% acetyl (degree of acetylation ~2) indicating that the compound was

cellulose diacetate. The FTIR spectra of cellulose acetate before and after adsorption are depicted in Figure. 2.

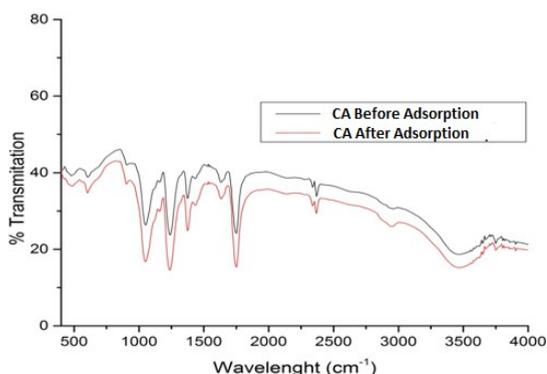


Fig. 2. FTIR Spectra of Cellulose Acetate

The absorption at 3749.62cm^{-1} , a broad peak at 3464.15cm^{-1} and at 1373.32cm^{-1} represent the free OH vibration, OH (bonded) stretching vibration, and of OH bending vibration, respectively. The peak at 1751.36cm^{-1} represents the stretching vibration of C=O in acetyl groups, while peak at 1049.28cm^{-1} represents the CO stretching. The peak at 1242cm^{-1} relates to the presence of CH deformation. FTIR spectra does not recognize the difference of the before and after adsorption samples due to the small amount of the adsorbate (ppm).

Adsorption kinetics

The constant rate of adsorption was determined from pseudo first order and pseudo second order equation. Determination of the reaction order was undertaken using the optimum contact time of adsorption.

In order to study the constant rate of direct red, the pseudo first order equation, which well-known Lagergren first order equation, was employed. The value of $\ln(q_e - qt)$ was calculated at different temperature for interval time 23, 24:

$$\ln(q_e - q_t) = \ln q_e - k_1 t \quad (1)$$

where k_1 (min^{-1}) is the pseudo first order adsorption kinetic parameter, q_e and q_t denote the amount of direct red adsorbed at equilibrium and at any time t . The plot of pseudo first order is depicted in Figure 3. The $\ln(q_e - qt)$ value decreases along with time consumed in the adsorption process.

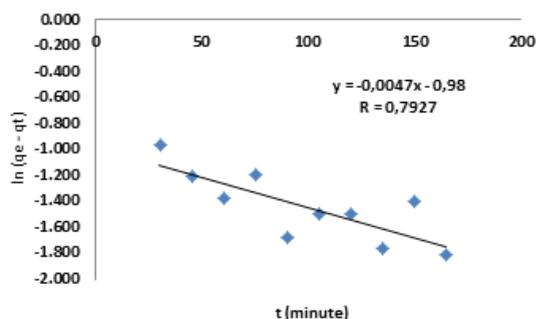


Fig.3. The plot of Pseudo first order

The pseudo second order equation in solution was represented by equation 2.²⁵

$$\frac{t}{qt} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_e^2} + \frac{t}{q_e} \quad (2)$$

where k_2 (min^{-1}) is the second first order adsorption kinetic parameter. Fig.4 shows the plot of second first order.

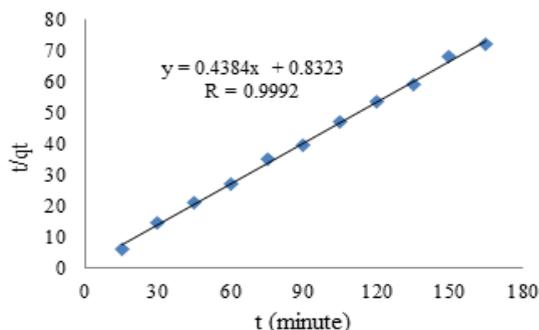


Fig.4. The plot of pseudo second order

By comparing Fig.1 and Fig.2, we conclude the best fit value of k , $q_{e,exp}$, $q_{e,cal}$ along with the correlation coefficient for all the adsorbate-adsorbent system. The best values are given in Table 1.

Table.1: Kinetics Parameter of Direct Red Adsorption by Cellulose Acetate

Parameters	Pseudo first order	Pseudo second order
k	0.0047	0.1500
$q_{e,exp}$ (mg/g)	0.3753	2.2810
$q_{e,cal}$ (mg/g)	2.4550	2.4550
R	0.7927	0.9992

Table.1 shows that R value of Pseudo second order is greater than that of the Pseudo first order, indicating that the adsorption mechanism of

direct red obeys the pseudo second order reaction. In this system, the adsorption process was controlled by chemisorptions which involved valence forces through sharing or exchange of electrons between the sorbent and the sorbate.^{20, 26} The adsorption process was conducted as a slow process (Figure. 4).

Adsorption isotherm

Determination of adsorption isotherms was undertaken using data of adsorption capacity at various initial concentration of direct red solution. The experimental equilibrium adsorption data have been tested using Langmuir and Freundlich isotherm equations. The applicability of these isotherms equation to describe the adsorption process was adjudged by the correlation coefficient or R values.^{21,27}

Langmuir isotherm is determined by plotting the equilibrium liquid phase concentration (C_e) vs. C_e/q_e , where q_e is the equilibrium adsorption capacity. The Langmuir isotherm is

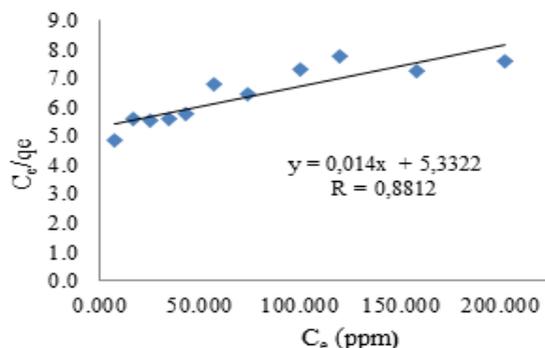


Fig.5. Langmuir Isotherm

shown in Figure.5.

The plot of C_e vs q_e . $\log q_e$ gives a straight line with slope $1/n$ and intercept of $\log KF$, where KF is the Langmuir constant. The Freundlich isotherm was described in Figure.6. The parameters of the isotherm and R values are listed in Table 2.

Table.2 indicates that R value of Freundlich isotherm is greater than 0.949, i.e. the Freundlich giving the best fit. Freundlich isotherm is based on the assumption that adsorption occurs on a heterogeneous adsorption surface having

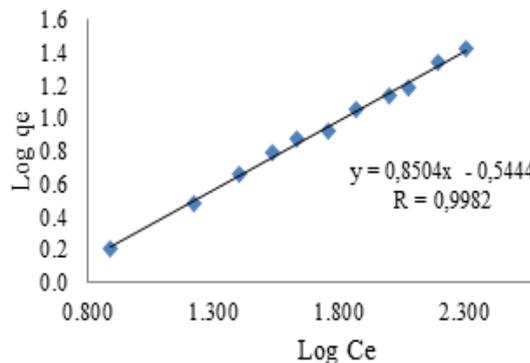


Fig.6. Freundlich Isotherm

unequally available sites with different energy of adsorption.²⁸ According with Ayawei *et al*²⁹ and Vimonses³⁰, the Freundlich isotherm constant can be used to explore the favourability of adsorption process. The adsorption process is favourable if the value of n satisfies the condition $|1| < n < |10|$. We found that the value of $n = 1,1759$ ($1/n = 0,8504$) indicating that the adsorption of direct red into cellulose acetate is favourable.

Table. 2: The parameters of isotherm

Parameters	Langmuir	Freundlich
Constant (K)	0,003	0,2855
Q ₀	71,429 mg/g	-
1/n	-	0,8504
R	0,8812	0.9982

The thermodynamic parameters were determined by measuring the effect of temperature on adsorption capacity. We observed that the increase of temperature is accompanied by the increase of adsorption capacity. This implies that the adsorption is endothermic process.

The measurable thermodynamic parameters include the change in free energy (ΔG°), enthalpy (ΔH°), and entropy (ΔS°), which may be determined using the following equation^{23, 31} :

$$\Delta G^\circ = \Delta H^\circ - T\Delta S^\circ \quad (3)$$

The values of ΔH° and ΔS° were calculated by plotting $1/T$ vs $\ln K_d$, where K_d is the distribution coefficient. K_d chase concentration after time t (C_t). The plot can be seen in Figure. 7.

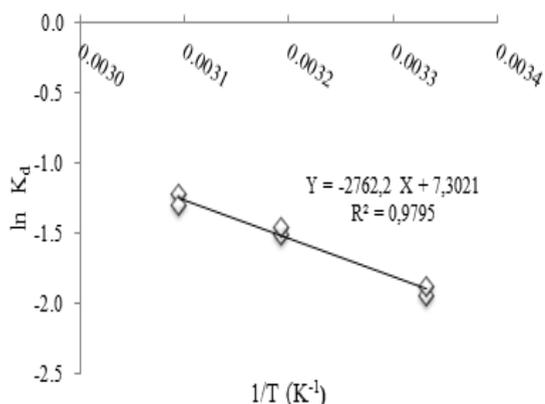


Fig.7. Thermodynamic plot for adsorption

Based on Fig.7, the values of ΔH° and ΔS° are 22,965 k J.mol⁻¹ and 60, 710 J.mol⁻¹.K⁻¹, respectively. The values of ΔG° in each temperature is listed in Table 3.

Endothermic nature is indicated by the positive value of ΔH° , the increase of ΔS° and the decrease of ΔG° . The positive value of ΔG° indicates that absorption is nonspontaneous. The positive value of ΔS° indicates the increase in randomness.

Table. 3: The values of Gibbs free energy

Temperature (K)	300.15	313.15	323.15
ΔG° (kJ.mol ⁻¹)	4.743	3.954	3.347

CONCLUSION

The cellulose acetate prepared using Ananas comosus leaves is effective for removing the reactive direct red in aqueous solutions. Adsorption kinetics follow pseudo second order reaction. Equilibrium adsorption data presents the Freundlich isotherm. The calculated thermodynamic parameters indicate that the ongoing adsorption process is endothermic and nonspontaneous.

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