CHROMATOGRAPHIC SEPARATION OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS USING ADSORPTION CHROMATOGRAPHY

Shergoziyev Kilichbek
Teacher of Fergana State University

Abstract: *Adsorption chromatography is a widely used technique for separating mixtures of organic compounds based on their adsorption and desorption properties on various adsorbents. Commonly employed adsorbents include aluminum oxide, silica gel, cellulose, starch, activated carbon, polyamide, and more. In this chromatographic method, the mixture of substances to be separated is loaded onto the chromatographic column, where it interacts with the adsorbent. The column is typically divided into thirds or fourths, and the adsorbent is placed at the lower portion. The mobile phase is then added, and as it moves through the column, the components of the mixture interact differently with the adsorbent, leading to separation.*

Keywords: *Chromatography, Adsorption, Desorption, Adsorbent, Elution, Separation, Organic Compounds.*

To enhance separation efficiency, the adsorbent is often pre-treated with a specific solvent to achieve a uniform distribution. The sample, often dissolved in a solvent, is gently added to the column, and the mobile phase is carefully adjusted. The column is then subjected to a gradual flow of nitrogen or carbon dioxide gas to aid in optimal adsorbent packing. The sample compounds, with varying affinities for the adsorbent, move at different rates, resulting in discrete zones that elute sequentially from the column.

The elution process involves a continuous interplay of adsorption and desorption phenomena. Substances are adsorbed onto the adsorbent surface and then desorbed as the mobile phase carries them along the column. Due to the repeated adsorption and desorption cycles, separation is achieved through a series of interactions between the sample compounds and the adsorbent.

Since compounds interact differently with the adsorbent, they travel through the column at varying rates, leading to the formation of distinct bands and zones. These zones are separated further as they are eluted from the column and can be collected as individual fractions. The eluted fractions are then analyzed to determine their composition.

Various eluents are used to facilitate elution, with the eluent strength tailored to the compounds' affinity for the adsorbent. If colored compounds are present, chromatograms with colorful bands are obtained. The chromatographic zones are

subsequently separated during elution, and the resulting chromatogram is analyzed for identification and quantification.

In conclusion, adsorption chromatography exploits the adsorption and desorption behaviors of organic compounds on adsorbents to achieve effective separation. This versatile technique finds applications in various scientific fields and contributes to the understanding and analysis of complex mixtures.

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