

Figure 7: Langmuir model of Methyl violet & Auramine yellow on Stishovite clay

The essential features of the Langmuir isotherm can be expressed in terms of a dimensionless separation factor [2,13] (R_L , also called as equilibrium parameter) defined as

$$R_L = \frac{1}{1 + a_L C_0} \dots \dots \dots Eq. (A.3)$$

Where C_0 (mg/L) is the initial dye concentration and a_L (L/mg) is the Langmuir constant related to the energy of adsorption. The value of R_L indicates the shape of the isotherms to be either unfavourable ($R_L > 1$), linear ($R_L = 1$), favourable ($0 < R_L < 1$) or irreversible ($R_L = 0$). It was observed that in this study the R_L values are in between 0 and 1 confirming the favourable uptake of both Methyl violet and Auramine yellow on the adsorbent.

4.5.2. Freundlich isotherm [15]

In the linear form the Freundlich isotherm can be expressed as

$$\log q_e = \log K_F + \frac{1}{n} \log C_e \dots \dots \dots Eq. (B.1)$$

Where K_F ($\text{mg}^{1-1/n} \text{L}^{1/n} \text{g}^{-1}$) is the Freundlich constant related to the bonding energy, and n (g/L) is the heterogeneity factor. As required by Eq. (B.1), the plot of $\log q_e$ vs $\log C_e$ is linear (Fig.8) with a regression coefficient of 0.9964 and 0.9902 showing the data fit well with Freundlich isotherm also. The value of n was evaluated as 1.667 and 1.284 indicate that the process was favorable. The value of K_F was found to be 10.026 and 5.248 [$\text{mg}^{1-1/n} \text{L}^{1/n} \text{g}^{-1}$] respectively for Methyl violet and Auramine yellow.

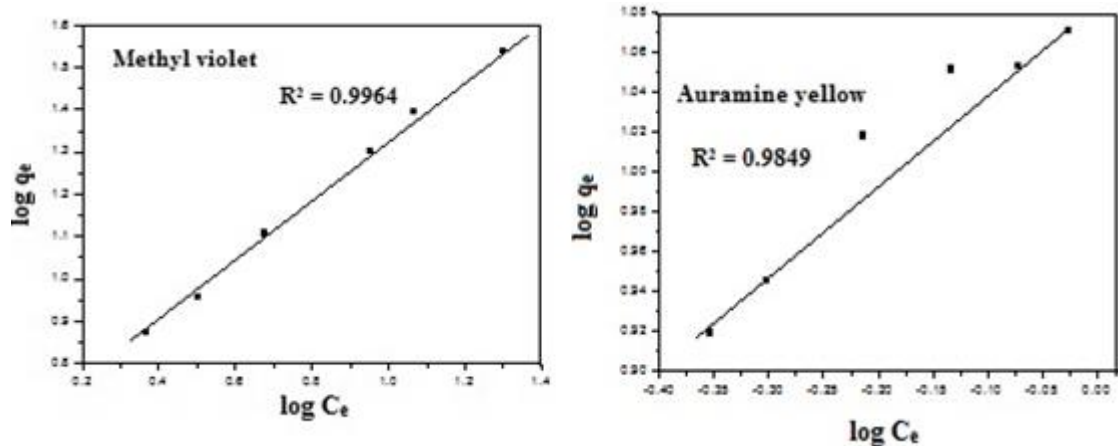


Figure 8: Freundlich model of Methyl violet & Auramine yellow on Stishovite clay

4.6. Kinetics of Adsorption

In order to investigate the mechanism of adsorption of Methyl violet and Auramine yellow by the adsorbent used in this study the following four kinetic models were considered.

4.6.1. Pseudo-Second Order Kinetic Model

The pseudo second order kinetic rate equation was usually expressed as [16-18]:

$$\frac{dq_t}{dt} = k_2 (q_e - q_t) \dots \dots \dots Eq.(C.1)$$

Here q_e and q_t were the adsorption capacity at equilibrium and at time, t , respectively (mg/g) and k_2 , the pseudo-second order rate constant (g/mg/min). On integrating the Eq.C.1,

for the boundary conditions $t=0$ to $t=t$ and $q_t = q_e$

$$\frac{1}{(q_e - q_t)} = \frac{1}{q_e} + k_2 t \dots \dots \dots Eq.(C.2)$$

which is the integrated law for a pseudo – second order reaction. Eq.C.2 can be rearranged to obtain

$$\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_e^2} + \frac{1}{q_e} t \dots \dots \dots Eq.(C.3)$$

Compared to Eq.C.2 and Eq.C.3 had an advantage that k_2 and q_e can be obtained from the intercepts and slope of the plot of (t/q_t) vs t and there was no need to know any parameter beforehand[19]. The results for the adsorption of Methyl violet and Auramine yellow studied on the clay were

shown in Fig.9. The linearity of the plots clearly indicated that the adsorption process followed pseudo second order

kinetics.

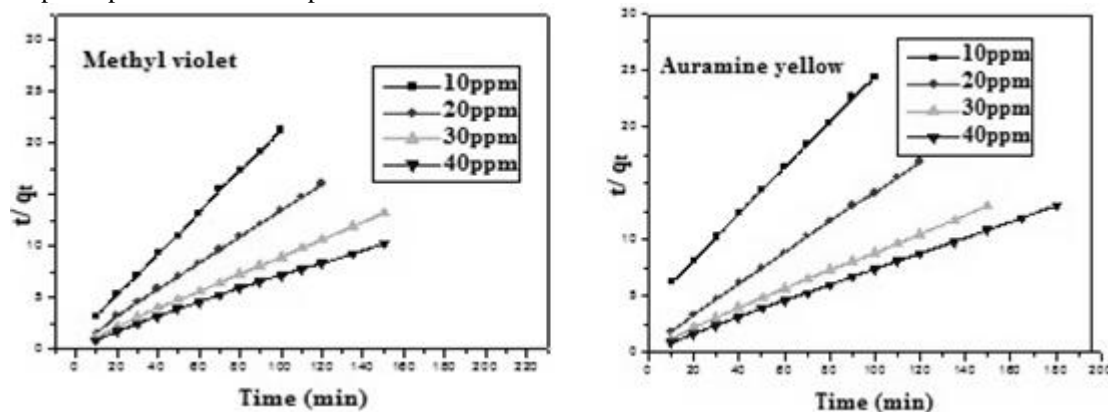


Figure 9: Pseudo-second order kinetic model of Methyl violet & Auramine yellow on Stishovite clay

5. Conclusion

The present investigation showed that Stishovite clay can be used as an effective adsorbent for removal of Methyl violet and Auramine yellow. The amount of dye adsorbed varied with initial dye concentration, adsorbent dose, p^H and temperature. Removal of both basic dyes by stishovite clay obeyed both Langmuir and Freundlich isotherms. The adsorption process followed pseudo second order kinetics.

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