Adsorption: enrichment on the surface (binding on "active" sites)
Desorption: removal of the adsorbed species



Adsorption is brought by the forces acting between the solid and the molecules of the gas. These forces are of two kinds: physical (physisorption) and chemical (chemisorption).

Example: Adsorption phenomena at S/L interfaces from dilute binary liquids:

From the mass balance:



In case of nonionic systems the typical interactions are:

van der Waals and dispersion (secondary interactions) Surface/dissolved material Surface/ solvent Solvent/dissolved material

TYPICAL SHAPES OF THE ISOTHERMS:



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A: formic acid B: acetic acid C: propionic acid D: butyric acid



From water on activated carbon

From toluene on silica

Oriented adsorption

¹⁵ 20

INTERPRETATION OF DATA

- 1. Shape of the isotherm
- 2. Models
 - a) Langmuir





b. Freundlich

$$\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{s}} = \mathbf{k} \mathbf{c}^{1/\mathsf{m}} \quad \mathsf{m} > 1$$



ln c

* Ionic systems



The role of the counterion

Thickness of the electric double-layer δ

Brownian motion *Diffuse double-layer Stern-layer*



- $\Psi = \Psi_0 \, \mathbf{e}^{-\kappa \mathbf{x}}$ $\kappa = \operatorname{konst} \cdot \mathbf{z} \sqrt{\mathbf{c}}$
- z the charge of the counterion (symmetric electrolites) 1/κ: fictive thickness



Surface potential: electrokinetic potential or ζ - potential



$$\zeta = \frac{4\pi\sigma\delta}{\varepsilon}$$

 σ : surface charge density ϵ : permittivity of the medium

Zeta potential [mV]

from 0 to ± 5 ,

from ± 10 to ± 30

from ±30 to ±40

from ± 40 to ± 60

more than ± 61

Stability behavior of the colloid Rapid coagulation or flocculation Incipient instability Moderate stability Good stability Excellent stability