



# The Possibility of Using Adsorption to Remove Sulfur from Different Fuels

Charan K,

India

**Abstract:** This study summarizes research on methods for removing sulfur from various fuels. Diesel, gasoline, kerosene, crude oil, and other hydrocarbon fuels may have their sulfur content reduced using the adsorption technique. Researchers have tried a variety of adsorption methods for sulfur removal, each with its own set of activating agents. Many of these sulfur removal processes were run continuously at ambient temperature and atmospheric pressure, while others were batch processes. Various writers investigated the effects of varied concentration, temperature, adsorbent dosage, and contact time. Various researchers used various isotherm models to characterize the evaluated parameters and equilibrium data. **Keywords:** Activated carbon, adsorption, fuel, and desulfurization

## Introduction

1. To improve air quality, environmental regulations throughout the globe have reduced the sulfur content of gasoline to low levels [A.Khodadadi]. Over the last decade, the process of removing sulfur from fuels has gained significant attention and activity on a global scale. Ambient, Mansoor. The emission of pollutants into the atmosphere from combustion systems' flue gases is subject to stricter environmental laws on a global scale. Especially the release of sulfur dioxide. That is why manufacturers must upgrade their current technological capabilities. Good day, [Adeyi]. The emission quality and environmental impact of diesel fuel combustion will undoubtedly be improved by the significant decrease in sulfur. Someone named Isam. Liquid fuels containing sulfur or its organic analogues are undesirable because they contribute to pollution and impede a number of refining processes. (M. Shakerullah). Exhaust gases and other pollutants endanger not just humans but all forms of life on Earth. Diesel, a product of petroleum, is a significant contributor to pollution in the environment. The situation is becoming worse and worse every year as a result of its fast growth. No, [Abel]. Today, a petroleum refinery's primary focus is on producing clean hydrocarbon fuels with little aromatic and sulfur content [Neran]. The presence of sulfuric acid in heavy crude oils is undesirable during refining because it lowers product quality. Along with high processing costs, environmental pollutants from combustion, and catalyst poisoning and deactivation in catalytic converters, they can cause corrosion in oil pipelines, pumps, and refining equipment. Abdullahi's name. As a result, the presence of sulfur has made the circumstances that govern oil transportation more significant; as a result, most refineries demand the separation of sulfur from crude oil, and the quantity of sulfur is used to determine the price of oil. It is Sajma Jadoon.

## 2. Removal of sulphur from different fuels

### I. Crude oil

An Analysis of the Kinetics and Dosage Effects of Manganese Dioxide Adsorbent on the Desulfurization of Crude Oil by A. A. Adeyi al. Observations revealed a 49% decrease in sulfur content of final product, crude oil. For a more accurate description of the desulfurization process, the authors relied on a pseudo-second-order reaction model. As an adsorbent agent, manganese dioxide was used in batch adsorptive desulphurization tests. We utilized a fluorescence spectrophotometer to measure the amount of residual sulfur in each sample after adsorption [1]. Adeyi and Abel conducted research on the adsorptive desulphurization of crude oil using zinc oxide and manganese dioxide. Activated zinc oxide and manganese dioxide were among the metal oxides used to desulphurize crude oil. The authors found that



activated manganese dioxide was more effective than activated zinc oxide in removing sulfur compounds from crude oil. To analyze the adsorptive desulfurization balance, researchers employed a pseudo-second-order model. At last, it was shown that activated zinc oxide was best described by the Freundlich model and activated manganese dioxide by the Langmuir model [2]. Making strides in desulfurization technology, Liu Lin et al. improved the low-quality crude oil. The authors also detailed the current state of the art in desulfurization technology, which includes methods like biodesulfurization, bacterial catalysis for hydrogenation, microwave-catalytic hydrogenation, oxidative desulfurization in electrostatic fields, and the ultrasonic/microwave-catalytic oxidation that we use in our lab [3]. Methods for desulfurizing crude oil by Solat et al. Various desulfurization methods were extensively researched and reviewed by the authors, including oxidative desulfurization, adsorptive desulfurization, hydro desulfurization, extraction desulfurization, c-alkylation, s-alkylation, microbe desulfurization, microbe desulfurization by ultrasound oxidation, aerobic microbe desulfurization, anaerobic microbe desulfurization, and supercritical water desulfurization [4].

## II. Kerosene

Yoshie Shimizu et al. Adsorptive removal of sulphur compounds in kerosene by using rice husk activated carbon. They were used rice husk activated carbon for desulphurization of kerosene upto 77 % The capacities of rice husk activated carbons to adsorb refractory sulfur compounds of dibenzothiophenes were evaluated by investigators for correlating with their textural and chemical characteristics[5]. Ultrasound-Assisted Desulfurization of Commercial Kerosene by adsorption was studied by Mahesh patil. Author was investigated Sorption of hexyl mercaptan sulfur onto carbon-based adsorbents by ultrasonic irradiation. Investigator was observed that Carbon nanotubes showed higher adsorptive capacity [6].

## III. Gasoline

The article "Adsorptive Desulfurization of Model Gasoline by Using Different Zn Sources Exchanged NaY Zeolites" was written by Jingwei Rui and colleagues. While The authors used the liquid-phase ion-exchange approach to construct NaY zeolites using various Zn sources, such as  $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ ,  $\text{Zn}(\text{Ac})_2$ , and  $\text{ZnSO}_4$ . Researchers found that after two regeneration cycles, the regenerated  $\text{Zn}(\text{Ac})_2$ -Y adsorbent retained 84.42% and 66.10% of its initial adsorption capacity, respectively. An ion-exchange method sample of  $\text{Zn}(\text{Ac})_2$ -Y, with  $\text{Zn}(\text{Ac})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$  as a precursor, had the greatest capacity to remove sulfur. Due to the poor zeolite framework stability of the Zn cations, the authors inferred that the sulfur adsorption capacity diminishes with an increase in the adsorption-regeneration cycle [7].

Rashad Javadli and Arno de Klerk investigated the desulfurization of heavy oil. Various methods for desulfurization of heavy oil were investigated by the authors. Heavy oil's fouling properties, high viscosity, and large molecular size reduce the effectiveness of operations that call for a solid substance, such as an adsorbent or catalyst. According to the authors, autoxidation is a good method for desulfurizing heavy oil [8].

In order to desulfurize model gasoline, Huang Huan and Salissou M. Nour used Ni/ZnO-HY adsorbent in a reactive adsorption process. The authors found that the Ni/ZnO-HY adsorbent performed the best when it came to desulfurization. The Ni/ZnO-HY adsorbent successfully recovered 92.19 percent of the sulfur, and even after 5 regeneration cycles, the recovery rate would remain at 82.17% of the fresh level [9]. New mesoporous carbon adsorbents for gasoline desulfurization were investigated by Mansoor and Sajedeh. Using spherical SBA-16 mesoporous silica as a template, these mesoporous carbon adsorbents were produced. Researchers discovered that OMC adsorbed a greater quantity of DBT than SBA16. Research on the produced materials was carried out using XRD, SEM, and nitrogen adsorption-desorption isotherms [10].

Xiao Chen et al. characterized ferrites using Mossbauer spectroscopy as adsorbents for reactive adsorption desulfurization. Nanocrystalline ferrite adsorbents were produced by the authors by using a microwave-



assisted combustion technique with metal nitrates and urea. They determined that produced  $\text{AFe}_2\text{O}_4$  were effective adsorbents for the reactive ADS of model gasoline after conducting adsorption tests utilizing a fixed bed reactor to assess the ADS reactivity [11]. Chemicals containing hydrocarbons Mr. S. Patil and colleagues Batch reactor for sulfur sorption onto activated carbons. In order to make activated carbon, they used black liquor. Batch operations were used to carry them out. Model fuel adsorptive sulfur removal Following the experimental results acquired, the authors noted that activated carbon had the greatest adsorption capacity, in accordance with the Langmuir adsorption isotherm model [12]. Shingo Watanabe, Xiaoliang Ma, and Chunshan Song investigated the use of regenerable  $\text{CeO}_2\text{-TiO}_2$  adsorbents for fuel cell applications in the selective removal of sulfur from liquid hydrocarbons. The regenerability and adsorptive performance of Ti-Ce bimetal oxide adsorbents ( $\text{TiO}_2\text{-CeO}_2$ ) were investigated by the authors in relation to the influence of the Ti-Ce atomic ratio. Researchers found that bi-metal oxides outperformed  $\text{CeO}_2$  and  $\text{TiO}_2$  in terms of adsorptive performance [13].

#### IV. Model oil

Muhammad Ishaq et.al. Adsorptive desulfurization of model oil using untreated, acid activated and magnetite nanoparticle loaded bentonite as adsorbent. Investigators were used novel ultraclean adsorption desulfurization process for model oil using untreated, acid activated and magnetite nanoparticle loaded bentonite as adsorbent. They were conducted batch experiments for study the effect of contact time, adsorbent dose, initial dibenzothiophene, concentration and temperature. Investigators were investigated that the bentonite impregnated with magnetite exhibits better performance in the desulfurization of fuel as compared to bentonite in untreated form as well as activated with  $\text{HNO}_3$  [14]. Desulfurization of Model Oil via Adsorption by Copper (II) Modified Bentonite was studied by Dezhi Yi, Huan Huang, and Li Shi. Authors were carried out desulfurization process by adsorption for removing dimethyl sulfide and propylmercaptan using bentonite adsorbents modified by  $\text{CuCl}_2$ . Investigators were observed that the maximum sulfur adsorption capacity obtained at a Cu(II) loading of 15 wt %, and the optimum calcination temperature was  $150^\circ\text{C}$  [15]. M. Shalirullah et.al Desulphurization of liquid fuels by selective adsorption through mineral clays as adsorbent. Authors were carried out batch experiments for desulphurization. they were used clays collected from local sources, including Kaolinite, Montmorillinite, Palygorskite and Vermiculite as an adsorbent. Investigators were observed that Kaolinite exhibited the maximum desulphurization yield of 60 %, 76 % and 64 % at 6 hrs adsorption incase of crude oil, kerosene and diesel oil respectively [16].

#### V. Diesel

Marko Muzic et.al Kinetic, equilibrium and statistical analysis of diesel fuel adsorptive desulphurization" Authors were carried out adsorption experiment for determination of parameter like influence of time, initial sulfur concentration, activated carbon mass and their interactional effects on sulfur content and adsorption capacity by using activated carbon and activated aluminium oxide. They were observed that activated carbon was efficient during the adsorption of sulfur compounds from diesel fuel when compared to aluminum oxide [17]. Deep Desulfurization of Diesel Fuel by Guard Bed

Adsorption of Activated Carbon and Locally Prepared Cu-Y Zeolite was studied by Nada Mustafa Hadi. Investigators were carried desulfurization of diesel by different adsorbents in a fixed bed adsorption process operated at ambient temperature and pressure. Authors were proved that when Cu Y-zeolite adsorbent used with activated carbon as a guard bed, Cu-Y zeolite provides by for the best adsorption capacities both at breakthrough point and at saturation [18]. A Review on Bio- and Adsorptive Desulfurization of Diesel Fuel was studied by Mojirade, Aribike and Nwachukw. Authors were studied the potentiality of ADS of real and model diesel using different adsorbents types like nano particles and different types of clays impregnated with different chemical precursors and sewage sludge [19]. S. Zheng et.al. Mesoporous and Macroporous Alumina- Supported Nickel Adsorbents for Adsorptive Desulphurization of Commercial Diesel. Authors were prepared High-performance adsorbents using mesoporous and macroporous alumina for adsorptive desulphurization of commercial diesel at atmospheric pressure. Investigators were used nitrogen adsorption isotherms (BET), X-ray diffraction, scanning electron microscopy, high-resolution transmission electron microscopy, temperature-programmed reduction of hydrogen, temperature-programmed desorption of ammonia and Fourier transform infrared techniques for characterization of adsorbents [20]. New methods of removing sulfur from commercial diesel using surfactants and micro emulsion systems was developed by Castro Dantas and Dantas Netontas Investigators were carried out Batch adsorption tests to assess the ability of vermiculite to adsorb sulfur from diesel. Authors were investigated that the vermiculite adsorbed 4.24 mg of sulfur/g of adsorbent, corresponding to 68.7% sulfur removal. And the process yielded 46.8% sulfur removal in the two-stage experiment and 73.15% in the six-stage experiment [21]. Khodadadi et.al Adsorptive desulfurization of diesel fuel with nano copper oxide ( $\text{CuO}$ ). They were carried out adsorption experiments for



desulphurization. Authors were used CuO nano particle as adsorbent for the desulfurization of liquid fuels and investigate its characterization[22]. Desulfurization of Diesel Fuels by Adsorption via  $\pi$ -Complexation with Vapor-Phase Exchanged Cu(I)-Y Zeolites was studied by Arturo J, Hernandez-Maldonado and Ralph T. Yang. Authors were investigated that the sulfur adsorption capacity was increased by 14% after a thin layer of activated alumina was placed on top of a fresh zeolite bed. And they were showed that activated aluminas are capable of adsorbing large thiophenic molecules, but not too deep desulfurization levels[23]. Nguyen Thanh et.al desulfurization of raw diesel fuel by metal-modified mesoporous silica. Authors were prepared Metal-modified mesoporous silica adsorbents to selectively remove sulfur compounds from diesel fuel having conc. 470 ppmw. Investigators were investigated that the maximum removal percent for sulfur compounds were 57.5% with MCF-Ti-20 adsorbent. And the initial adsorption rate of sulfur compounds on metal modified MCF was faster than MCF adsorbent and the adsorption rates in all of the adsorbents equal zero after 400min[24]. Adsorptive desulfurization of diesel fuel was investigated applying two Design of Experiments methods was investigated by M. Music, Sertia-Bionda, and. Gomzi. The experiments were carried out in a batch adsorption system using Chemviron Carbon SOLCARBTM C3 activated carbon as adsorbent. Adsorptive desulfurization of diesel fuel was investigated by applying two DOE methods, three factor two-level factorial design. Investigators were investigated that the lowest achieved output sulfur concentration was 7.6 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> with relatively low sorption capacity of 0.0861 mg g<sup>-1</sup>[25]. The microwave-assisted adsorptive desulfurization of model fuel was investigated using a synthesized rare earth metal-doped zeolite by N. Salahudeena and A.S. Ahmeda. They were investigated that the synthesized zeolite was effective for adsorptive desulfurization of a model fuel, having the best efficiency of 75% in a microwave-assisted desulfurization carried out at 100 °C for 15 minutes [26]. Neran and Samar were studied a batch adsorption desulfurization process for diesel fuel containing 580 ppm sulfur, based on physical adsorption of refractory sulfur compounds on activated carbon. They were studied effects of time, temperature, diesel to AC ratio, AC particle size, mixing velocity, and initial sulfur concentration in commercial diesel fuel on the desulfurization efficiency. Authors were investigated that the residual sulfur concentration in diesel fuel was decreased from 580 to 247 ppm, corresponding to a desulfurization efficiency of 57% [27]. A. R. Lope's et.al Palladium Loaded on Activated Carbon for Sulphur Compounds Adsorption in Commercial diesel. Authors were conducted adsorption process and batch tests were performed to compare the adsorption capacity for palladium supported carbon and unmodified activated carbon. The study was conducted to determine the parameters of adsorption seeking approximate actual conditions existing in the production of diesel. They were investigated that the adsorption capacity of palladium supported carbon was 120% superior for sulfur compounds. Analysis of Refined Petroleum Products from Southwest Nigeria for Total Sulfur Levels Using a UV/VIS Spectrophotometer [28]. Olatunji et.al. Researchers found that diesel fuel samples had sulfur contents ranging from 0.027 to 0.169 weight percent and gasoline samples from 0.0019 to 0.0178 weight percent. The sulfur levels in the chosen samples were found to be lower than the Nigerian norm for diesel and gasoline, however 89.9% of the samples were found to be higher than the US Environmental Protection Agency limit [29]. Using carbon nanospheres for selective adsorptive desulfurization of diesel fuel, Hamda et al. At ambient temperature and atmospheric pressure, the authors investigated a selective adsorptive desulfurization method for reducing sulfur levels to an acceptable level. In order to remove sulfur from liquid fuels, carbon nanospheres were used as an effective adsorbent. According to the authors' research, using CNSs adsorbents in an adsorption procedure to remove sulfur from diesel fuel was 87% effective [30]. Isam and Noora conducted research on the adsorption desulfurization of commercial diesel oil using granular activated charcoal. They looked at the possibility of using granular activated charcoal to absorb sulfur compounds from commercial diesel oil. Adsorption desulfurization of diesel oil using GAC demonstrated an excellent effectiveness for sulfur removal of 20.94% at room temperature, according to investigators' investigations [31]. Through the use of Cu(I)-Y zeolite adsorption, Kuen Song investigated the desulfurization of gasoline and diesel. In order to remove sulfur from diesel and commercial gasoline, the authors used room-temperature fixed-bed adsorption techniques to create Cu(I)-Y zeolite nanoparticles. The use of a transition metacomound placed on a porous platform for selective adsorption allowed the researchers to show the removal of organic sulfur compounds from gasoline and diesel fuel [32]. By Gaurav Daware et.al. Removal of sulphur from diesel fuel using an inexpensive adsorbent. Researchers desulfurized diesel fuel using an adsorbent made of powdered neem leaves. Batch studies were conducted to determine the effects of several variables, including sulphur content, adsorbent dosage, temperature, and contact duration. Researchers found that at 20 °C, the largest amount of sulfur could be removed (65%) [33]. This is the work of Isam A. H. and colleagues. Removal of Sulfur from Diesel Oil via Adsorption Using Resistant Substances. For the purpose of desulfurizing diesel fuel, they used commercially available activated carbon and carbonized date palm kernel powder as adsorbents. Desulfurization batch tests were conducted. Using 5% adsorbent material, the sulfur level was decreased from 410 ppm to 251 ppm, and further reduction was achieved up to 184.6 ppm using 10% sorbent material, according to the authors' investigation [34]. Adsorption on Na-Y type zeolite, local clay, and active carbon is used to desulphurize Mack diesel fuel. Younis Mohammed K. and Simo Sherwan Mohammed conducted research on purifying Tawke diesel fuel from sulfur compounds. Adsorbents such as granular Na-Y zeolite, MOR zeolite, molecular sieve 3A zeolite, activated charcoal, local clay, and others were used in the desulfurization process. According to the research, activated charcoal's desulfurization efficiency is over 20% higher than that of clay and zeolite types [35]. The Adsorption Process for Sulfur Removal from Diesel Fuel: A Review by Seyed et al. Reviews on adsorption-based desulfurization procedures were written by the authors. Researchers have been looking at different synthetic sorbents and catalysts, as well as





altered clays, in an effort to identify the most effective ones for each procedure [36]. In the case of Marko Muzica and colleagues Adsorption optimization on activated carbon for desulfurization of diesel fuel. Batch adsorbers were used by the authors. In order to optimize the adsorption process of organic sulfur compounds, they used response surface approach for diesel desulphurization. The optimal conditions for the process were found to be 50 °C for 100 minutes, with an input sulfur concentration of 16.0 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> and an adsorbent mass of 4.0 g, when the sulfur concentrations reached around 6.6 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> [37]. A study was conducted by Hoang Phuoc on the adsorptive sulfurization of diesel for fuel cell applications. The authors tested the desulfurization capabilities of several commercial adsorbents derived from activated carbons, zeolites, and metal oxides. The feasibility of lowering the sulfur content of commercial ULSD in Korea, which currently contains about 5 ppmw S, to the tolerance level of 0.1 ppmw—the limit level for MCFC application—was examined in their study [38]. Jae Hyung Kim investigated adsorption-based sulfur removal and nitrogen removal using a model diesel fuel including sulfur, nitrogen, and aromatic compounds. The fuel was passed through a fixed-bed adsorption system that made use of three common adsorbents: activated carbon, activated alumina, and a nickel-based adsorbent. The authors analyzed the adsorptive ability and selectivity of the different compounds using the breakthrough curves as a foundation for examination [39]. A group of researchers led by G. Karagiannakis Desulfurization of diesel fuel using adsorptive liquid phase. Researchers looked at the desulfurization of commercial diesel fuel in a lab setting using a high-surface area activated carbonsorbent in an ambient environment. A commercial diesel fuel with a total sulfur concentration of 7.1 ppmw may be desulfurized to values below 1 ppm using the sorbent that was chosen after extensive investigation into several regeneration procedures for the partly saturated sorbent [40]. Kinetics of Manganese Dioxide Adsorbent for Diesel Oil Desulfurization by Abel et al. Their actions were examined A batch reactor process for adsorption-based desulfurization of diesel oil using activated manganese dioxide. Researchers discovered that the desulphurization effectiveness increased with increasing contact time, and that the tested diesel oil's sulphur level decreased by 53% after desulphurization [41]. Researchers J. K. Ahmed and M. Ahmaruzzaman looked into the adsorption desulfurization of feed diesel using chemically impregnated coconut coir waste. They desulfurized feed fuel using chemically impregnated coconut coir waste. Writers were indeed Conducting batch studies with feed diesel containing 2,050 mg L<sup>-1</sup> of total sulfur allowed for the optimization of adsorption parameters such as adsorbent dosage, temperature, and contact duration [42]. Diesel sulphur and nitrogen removal using activated carbon impregnated with Pd and treatment acid (Andre et al., 2015). Brazilian commercial activated carbon samples that had been acid oxidized or impregnated with palladium chloride were used in the adsorption procedure to remove nitrogen and sulfur components from national commercial diesel. Following adsorption, researchers found that activated carbon impregnated with palladium chloride had an adsorption efficiency of more than 85% for nitrogen compounds and more than 60% for sulfur compounds [43].

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- [41] TheThe article "Kinetics Analysis of Manganese Dioxide Adsorbent on Desulphurization of Diesel Oil" was published in the International Journal of Scientific & Engineering Research in 2015 and was written by Abel Adekanmi Adeyi, Abdulwahab Giwa, and Victoria Abosede.
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