# Kinetics, Equilibrium and Thermodynamic Studies on Removal of Oleic Acid from Sunflower Oil onto Amberlyst A21

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## Abstract

Amberlyst A21 was used for the oleic acid adsorption from sunflower oil (SFO). The impacts of parameters such as contact time, temperature, and mass ratio of adsorbent on oleic acid adsorption were studied. The characterization of Amberlyst A21 before and after adsorption was performed by using Fourier transform infrared spectrometer (FTIR) and scanning electron microscope (SEM). The adsorption reached equilibrium 480 minutes later. The increase in temperature and the amount of adsorbent caused an increase in the amount of adsorbed oleic acid. The adsorption kinetics, isotherms, and thermodynamics were studied. The pseudo-first order kinetics well described the adsorption for all studied temperatures. The Langmuir, Freundlich, and Dubinin–Radushkevich isotherms and thermodynamic analysis were investigated at equilibrium. The suitability of the Langmuir and Freundlich isotherms indicated that the adsorption takes place under monolayer and heterogeneous surfaces. Thermodynamical results showed that adsorption occurs spontaneously and endothermic.

## Keywords

Amberlyst A21, adsorption, oleic acid, kinetics, equilibrium

## **1** Introduction

A large amount of waste cooking oil is produced as a by-product from frying in homes, restaurants, and catering companies. Most of the waste vegetable oils (WVOs) cause environmental pollution and economic problems. The WVOs that mix with the sewer as a result of pouring into the sink cause a vast amount of damage to the sewer systems around the world. The WVOs also cause a significant threat to public health [1]. Biodiesel production from WVOs is an environmentally friendly and economically effective method for WVOs assessment [2]. WVOs are relatively low cost and rich in free fatty acid (FFA) content. Biodiesel can be produced by mixing the oil with alcohol using a catalyst. The main disadvantage of producing biodiesel with a basic catalyst is that the FFA content in the oil causes soap formation and reduces the reaction efficiency. It also prevents the separation of biodiesel from glycerine after the reaction. In the case of using an acid catalyst in biodiesel production, the disadvantages are slower reaction and corrosion in the equipment involved [2-4].

It is possible that the use of WVOs in biodiesel production can be efficient and viable by reducing the FFA content. There are some possible common processes such as distillation, extraction, and esterification to reduce the FFA content of WVOs. Adsorption is a preferred alternative because distillation takes place at high temperatures and a significant amount of solvent is required for extraction [5, 6].

The studies carried out so far include the use of various adsorbents to capture FFA from WVOs. In literature, the use of different types of resins has been investigated within the scope of studies about the adsorption of FFAs. Jamal and Boulanger [7] investigated the removal of oleic acid from soybean oil on Dowex MR-450 UPW and Amberlyst MB-150 resins. Maddikeri et al. [8] studied the removal of stearic acid and oleic acid from SFO on Indion 810, 850, and 860. In the study performed by Ilgen [9], Amberlyst A26 (OH) was researched for the oleic acid adsorption from SFO. It was also used in another study by Deboni et al. [10] for the linoleic acid adsorption from a mixture of soybean oil and ethanol. In addition, Singh et al. [5] researched the adsorption of palmitic, stearic and oleic acid from soybean oil separately onto different type Amberlite resins as adsorbent. Khedkar et al. [11]

researched the effect of silver load on resins for removal of oleic acid from various solvents on HP20, Indion 860, Indion 790. Other than, different types of materials were also used as adsorbents. Cano et al. [12] used iron oxide nanoparticles for the adsorption of oleic acid from SFO and olive oil. Narachai et al. [13] researched the adsorption of oleic acid from isooctane onto MCM-41 synthesized from rice husk silica. Miyashiro et al. [14] investigated the removal of FFAs in edible oil on bentonite and sugarcane bagasse. It has been observed that the effects of various experimental parameters, kinetics, isotherms, and thermodynamics were investigated in the previously cited studies and similar studies not included here. The results obtained are discussed in the next parts of this study.

Although the utilization of Amberlyst A21 as an adsorbent for removal of various substances from different solutions has been investigated in the literature [15–20], no study has been found for the adsorption of oleic acid from vegetable oils. In this work, adsorption of oleic acid was performed by using Amberlyst A21 from oleic acid-SFO solution. The impacts of time, temperature, and mass ratio of adsorbent on oleic acid adsorption were investigated. Pseudo-first and pseudo-second order kinetics, Langmuir, Freundlich, and Dubinin-Radushkevich (D-R) isotherms and thermodynamics of adsorption were studied.

### 2 Experimental

### 2.1 Materials

SFO was purchased from a local market. Waste SFO was provided from local restaurant. Oleic acid, potassium hydroxide, diethyl ether and ethanol were purchased from Merck. Amberlyst A21 was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. The properties of Amberlyst A21 was presented in Table 1.

## 2.2 Characterization methods of adsorbent

FTIR analysis of Amberlyst A21 were performed before and after adsorption by using PerkinElmer ATR - FTIR spectrophotometer 650–4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> at room temperature. The SEM images of Amberlyst A21 before and after adsorption were obtained by using Zeiss EVO-5 SEM.

Table 1 Typical properties of Amberlyst A21 [21]

| Form                | Beads                                |  |  |  |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Moisture            | 56-62%                               |  |  |  |
| Matrix              | styrene-divinylbenzene (macroporous) |  |  |  |
| Matrix active group | dimethylamino                        |  |  |  |
| Particle size       | 22–30 mesh, 490–690 μm               |  |  |  |
| Capacity            | 1.3 meq/mL by wetted bed volume      |  |  |  |

#### 2.3 Experiments and analysis

The solution was prepared by adding the required amount of oleic acid to SFO to provide 3% oleic acid by weight in the solution. 50 grams of solution in a beaker was used in each experiment. Experiments were carried out at temperatures of 303 K, 323 K, and 343 K. After the solution reached the desired temperature, the adsorbent was added to the solution. The adsorbent amounts of 15%, 20%, and 25% were used based on the solution weight. The experiments were carried out at a stirring speed of 500 rpm.

Samples were taken at certain time intervals and centrifuged. The sample was added in a 50/50 volume percent ethanol-diethyl ether solution to better dissolve the oleic acid and SFO. Afterwards, a few drops of phenolphthalein were added and titration was performed with 0.01 N KOH solution. Experiments were repeated three times for each data and mean values were used. The titration and calculations were performed in accordance with The American Oil Chemists' Society Method Cd 30-63. The oleic acid concentration, adsorbed amount, and percentage of oleic acid in the sample were calculated with the help of Eqs. (1)–(3):

$$C = \frac{V_{\rm KOH} C_{\rm KOH} M W_{\rm OA}}{m_N},\tag{1}$$

where C is oleic acid concentration in the mixture (mg/g),  $V_{\text{KOH}}$  is the volume of KOH used in titration (ml),  $C_{\text{KOH}}$  is KOH concentration (mol/l),  $m_N$  is sample weight (g) and  $MW_{\text{OA}}$  is oleic acid molecular weight (g/mol).

$$q = \frac{\left(C_0 - C_t\right)M}{W},\tag{2}$$

Oleic acid removal (%) = 
$$\frac{(C_0 - C_t)}{C_0} \times 100,$$
 (3)

where q is the amount of oleic acid adsorbed per gram of adsorbent (mg/g),  $C_0$  is the initial concentration of oleic acid (mg/g),  $C_t$  is the concentration of oleic acid at time t (mg/g), M is the mass of the mixture (g), and W is the mass of adsorbent (g).

The desorption percentage amount was determined using Eq. (4):

Desorption (%) = 
$$\frac{q_D}{q} \times 100$$
, (4)

where  $q_D$  is the amount of oleic acid desorbed per adsorbent amount (mg oleic acid/g adsorbent).

## 3 Results and discussion 3.1 Adsorbent characterization

FTIR spectra of Amberlyst A21 before and after adsorption are shown in Fig. 1. The characteristic peaks of Amberlyst 21 are seen at 2930, 2810, and 2770  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  as the C-H stretching vibration of alkane and aldehyde. The C-N stretching vibration of the amine is observed at 1362 cm<sup>-1</sup>. There are also bands characterizing the bending vibrations of the alkene in the ranges of 1600-1400 and 1000-675 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The characteristic peaks of the Amberlyst 21 and the peaks of oleic acid appeared in close proximity, the peaks appeared as larger peaks of oleic acid after adsorption. In the spectra of the resin after adsorption, peaks belonging to oleic acid were observed at 2923 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 2853 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which were considered to belong to asymmetric CH<sub>2</sub> stretching and symmetrical CH<sub>2</sub> stretching, respectively. The peak at 1744 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponds to the C=O stretch. In the literature, after the adsorption of oleic acid to different adsorbents, the same oleic acid peaks in close proximity to each other were observed in all studies, regardless of the adsorbent type. The literature states that it can be used to determine the initial concentration of oleic acid from the area of C-H stretch bands in the range of 2800-3000 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the FTIR analysis [12, 19]. These evaluations show us that oleic acid is adsorbed on the Amberlyst A21 surface. SEM was used to investigate the morphology of Amberlyst A21. The SEM images of Amberlyst A21 surfaces are presented in Fig. 2 (a) and (b) before and after adsorption, respectively. Before oleic acid adsorption, Amberlyst A21 had a smooth surface as seen in Fig. 2 (a), while oleic acids appeared on the surface of Amberlyst A21 beads after adsorption as seen in Fig. 2 (b).

## 3.2 Impact of parameters

The impact of contact time and temperature for oleic acid removal from SFO on Amberlyst A21 was studied. As depicted in Fig. 3, gradually increased adsorption of









Fig. 2 SEM images of Amberlyst A21 (a) before adsorption; (b) after adsorption



Fig. 3 Impact of contact time and temperature

oleic acid was observed at temperatures of 303 K, 323 K, and 343 K and at a constant adsorbent amount of 15%. The adsorption reached equilibrium 480 minutes later for all studied temperatures.

The impact of the amount of adsorbent at the different temperatures at equilibrium is presented in Fig. 4. Experiments were performed at temperatures of 303 K, 323 K and 343 K using 15%, 20%, and 25% adsorbent amounts for each temperature. The increase in temperature and the amount of adsorbent increased the removal of oleic acid (see Fig. 4). The maximum oleic acid removal was observed as 75.4% at temperature of 323 K and using 25% adsorbent amount. The increase in adsorption with temperature indicates that the process is endothermic.



Fig. 4 Impact of temperature and adsorbent amount

### **3.3 Adsorption kinetics**

The adsorption kinetics of the oleic acid–SFO solution was investigated by using pseudo-first and pseudo-second-order kinetic models.

Lagergren presented a pseudo-first-order rate equation based on adsorption capacity to describe the kinetic process of liquid-solid phase adsorption. The linear form of Eq. (5) is as follows [22]:

$$\log(q_{e} - q_{t}) = \log q_{e} - \frac{k_{1}}{2.303}t,$$
(5)

where  $q_e$  is the adsorption capacities at equilibrium (mg/g),  $q_t$  is the adsorption capacities at time t (mg/g),  $k_1$  is the first order rate constant (min<sup>-1</sup>).

When plotting  $\log(q_e - q_t)$  versus *t*, the slope of the graph gives the *k* value and the intercept gives the calculated  $q_{e-\text{cal}}$  value.

The linearized pseudo-second order model presented as [23]:

$$\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_e^2} + \frac{t}{q_e},$$
(6)

where  $k_2$  is the second order rate constant (g/mg min).

When plotting  $(t/q_t)$  versus t,  $q_{e-cal}$  and  $k_2$  values can be determined from slope and intercept of lines.

The data obtained for temperatures of 303 K, 323 K, 343 K and adsorbent amounts of 15%, 20%, 25% were calculated by using Eqs. (5) and (6) and transferred to the graph. The  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ , theoretical  $q_e$  values and kinetic equations determined from the graphs are given in Table 2.  $R^2$  values, theoretical  $q_e$ , and experimental  $q_e$  values were determined and the compatibility of the kinetic models were evaluated. As depicted in Table 2, when  $R^2$  values

| A 1- 0/ (/)      |                     | Pseudo-first order   |  |       | Ps               | Pseudo-second order                |       |  |
|------------------|---------------------|--|--|-------|------------------|------------------------------------|-------|--|
| Ads.% (W/W)      | $q_{e-\exp}$ (mg/g) | $k_1 ({\rm min}^{-1})$                                     | $q_{e\text{-cal}} (\mathrm{mg/g})$                         | $R^2$ | $k_2$ (g/mg min) | $q_{e\text{-cal}} (\mathrm{mg/g})$ | $R^2$ |  |
|                  | T = 303  K          |  |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 15               | 85.33               | 0.0074   | 90.95  | 0.99  | 0.000040         | 121.95                             | 0.98  |  |
|                  |                     | $y = -0.0032x + 1.9588 \qquad \qquad y = 0.0082x + 1.6619$ |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 20               | 80.00               | 0.0067   | 79.09  | 0.98  | 0.000063         | 104.17                             | 0.98  |  |
|                  |                     |  | $y = -0.0029x + 1.8981 \qquad \qquad y = 0.0096x + 1.471$  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 25               | 70.00               | 0.0032   | 69.04  | 0.93  | 0.000012         | 136.99                             | 0.70  |  |
|                  |                     | y = -0.0014x + 1.8391 $y = 0.0073x + 4.2842$               |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| T = 323  K       |                     |  |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 15               | 132.67              | 0.0044   | 141.94   | 0.94  | 0.0000082        | 250.00                             | 0.91  |  |
|                  |                     | y = -0.0019x + 2.1521 $y = 0.004x + 1.9536$                |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 20               | 106.00              | 0.0062   | 151.00   | 0.70  | 0.0000025        | 344.83                             | 0.65  |  |
|                  |                     |  | $y = -0.0027x + 2.1790 \qquad \qquad y = 0.0029x + 3.3451$ |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 25               | 92.00               | 0.0051   | 114.57   | 0.70  | 0.0000086        | 188.68                             | 0.54  |  |
|                  |                     | $y = -0.0022x + 2.0591 \qquad \qquad y = 0.0053x + 3.2373$ |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| <i>T</i> = 343 K |                     |  |  |       |                  |                                    |       |  |
| 15               | 120.67              | 0.0053   | 126.65   | 0.95  | 0.000018         | 188.68                             | 0.97  |  |
|                  |                     |  | y = -0.0023x + 2.1026                                      |       | У                | = 0.0059x + 1.488                  |       |  |
| 20               | 108.50              | 0.0062   | 129.54   | 0.95  | 0.000013         | 196.08                             | 0.98  |  |
|                  |                     |  | y = -0.0027x + 2.1124                                      |       | <i>y</i> =       | = 0.0051x + 2.0467                 |       |  |
| 25               | 92.00               | 0.0067   | 117.06   | 0.91  | 0.000013         | 175.44                             | 0.97  |  |
|                  |                     | -  | y = -0.0029x + 2.0684                                      |       | <i>y</i> =       | = 0.0057x + 2.5942                 |       |  |

Table 2 Kinetic parameters and equations of oleic acid adsorption on to Amberlyst A21

were evaluated, pseudo-first order kinetic was found suitable for temperatures of 303 K and 323 K. For the pseudo-first order model, along with the higher  $R^2$  values at 303 K and 323 K the theoretical  $q_e$  values were also found to be more consistent with the experimental data. Although the  $R^2$  values for the pseudo-second and pseudo-first order can be considered close to each other at 343 K, it was seen that the theoretical  $q_e$  and the experimental  $q_e$  values for pseudo-first order models were in better agreement. As a result, it was evaluated that the pseudo-first order model was more suitable for all studied temperatures.

In the literature, oleic acid adsorption onto Zeolite 13X was investigated by Ilgen and Dulger [24], it was found that it was suitable for pseudo-second order kinetics at 323 K and 343 K, and suitable for both pseudo-first and pseudo-second order kinetics at 303 K. In another study by Maddikeri et al. [8], it was reported that the removal of oleic and stearic acid from SFO onto resins was compatible with pseudo-first order kinetics. Cano et al. [12] studied the removal of oleic acid from SFO and olive oil on iron oxide nanoparticles. It was observed that the adsorption conformed to the pseudo-second order kinetics. Jamal et al. [25] found that it complied with the pseudo-first order kinetic in their study of adsorption of oleic acid on Dowex MR-450 using soybean oil. Deboni et al. [10] studied the adsorption of FFAs from soybean oil on Amberlyst A26 OH. It was found to fit the pseudo-first and pseudo-second order kinetics.

#### 3.4 Adsorption isotherms

Different isotherm models were used to explain the adsorption process which describe the interrelation with adsorbent and adsorbate in equilibrium. The isotherms of oleic acid on Amberlyst A21 were obtained using equilibrium values at each studied temperature (303 K, 323 K, 343 K) and with each studied adsorbent ratio (15%, 20%, 25%). The conformity of Langmuir, Freundlich, and D-R isotherms with the experimental data was evaluated. The graphs obtained for Langmuir isotherm, Freundlich isotherm and D-R isotherms are presented in Figs. 5–7, respectively. The calculated constants from the different isotherms are presented in Table 3.

The linear form of Langmuir isotherm can be expressed as [26]:

$$\frac{1}{q_e} = \frac{1}{q_m} + \frac{1}{bq_m C_e},$$
(7)



Fig. 5 Langmuir isotherms of adsorption of oleic acid on Amberlyst A21



Fig. 6 Freundlich isotherms of adsorption of oleic acid on Amberlyst A21



Fig. 7 D-R isotherms of adsorption of oleic acid on Amberlyst A21

Table 3 Isotherm parameters for adsorption of oleic acid on Amberlyst A21

| T        | Langmuir  |             | Freundlich  |      | D-R   |                     |               |
|----------|---|-------------|-------------|------|-------|---------------------|---------------|
| /<br>(K) | $\begin{array}{c} q_{_m} \ (\mathrm{mg/g}) \end{array}$ | b<br>(g/mg) | $k_{\rm F}$ | п    | В     | $q_s \ ({ m mg/g})$ | E<br>(kJ/mol) |
| 303      | 188.68  | 0.044       | 15.33       | 1.71 | 0.016 | 196.74              | 5.57          |
| 323      | 333.33  | 0.052       | 25.30       | 1.54 | 0.013 | 362.17              | 6.11          |
| 343      | 217.39  | 0.108       | 37.14       | 2.08 | 0.009 | 262.15              | 7.62          |

where  $q_m$  is the maximum adsorption capacity (mg/g),  $C_e$  is the concentration of substance remaining in solution (mg/g), b is the Langmuir constant (g/mg).

The  $K_{\rm L}$  values were calculated using the *b* value obtained from the Langmuir isotherm ( $K_{\rm L} = (1 + bC_0)^{-1}$ ;  $C_0$ : concentration at t = 0). The calculated  $K_{\rm L}$  values (0.41; 0.38; 0.23) are in the range of 0–1 for temperature of 303 K, 323 K and 343 K, respectively. The  $K_{\rm L}$  values which are between 0 and 1 indicates that the adsorption is compatible with the Langmuir isotherm.

The linear form of Freundlich isotherm is represented as [27]:

$$\log q_e = \log k_{\rm F} + \frac{1}{n} \log C_e,\tag{8}$$

where *n* and  $k_{\rm F}$  values are constants isotherm constants. They were obtained as 1.7, 1.54 and 2.08 for temperature of 303 K, 323 K, 343 K, respectively. The fact that n > 1means that the adsorption is physical. The  $k_{\rm F}$  values which are the measure of the adsorption capacity were calculated as 15.33, 25.30, and 37.14 for temperatures of 303 K, 323 K, 343 K, respectively. It can be stated that the  $k_{\rm F}$  values increase with the increase in temperature, thus the adsorption capacity also increases with the temperature.

The linear form of D-R isotherm can be expressed as [28]:

$$\ln q_e = \ln(q_s) - (B\varepsilon^2),\tag{9}$$

where  $q_s$  is the theoretical isotherm saturation capacity (mg/g), *B* is the isotherm constant (mol<sup>2</sup>/kJ<sup>2</sup>),  $\varepsilon$  is the Polanyi potential (kJ/mol).

The  $\varepsilon$  is calculated using Eq. (10):

$$\varepsilon = RT \ln \left[ 1 + \frac{C^0}{C_{e(D-R)}} \right],\tag{10}$$

where *R* is the universal gas constant (8.314 J/mol K), *T* is the absolute temperature,  $C^0$  is the concentration of the solution in the chosen standard state (1 mol/L),  $C_{e(D-R)}$  is the equilibrium concentration of solution (mol/L). In the context of the D-R isotherm analysis, it is important to acknowledge that the concentration units employed for  $C_e$ were expressed in mol/L, as proposed by Zhou [29] in 2020.

The constants of *B* and  $q_s$  values were determined from the slope and intercept in Fig. 7 which plotted according to Eq. (9). E is mean free energy values, which give information about whether the adsorption process is physical or not, were calculated by using Eq. (11):

$$E = (2B)^{-0.5}.$$
 (11)

If the E values are between 8–19 kJ/mol, it is considered that the adsorption is chemical. Otherwise, if it is less than

8 kJ/mol, it is considered to be physical adsorption [24]. In current work, the *E* values were determined as 5.57, 6.11, 7.62 kJ/mol for temperatures of 303 K, 323 K and 343 K, respectively. Since the calculated *E* values are less than 8 kJ/mol, it can be stated that the adsorption of oleic acid on Amberlyst A21 is physical adsorption.

When the Langmuir, Freundlich and D-R isotherm models were evaluated together, it was seen that the  $R^2$ values were higher than 0.9 for all models, and all models were considered suitable for describing adsorption. According to the Langmuir and Freundlich isotherms, adsorption takes place under monolayer and heterogeneous surfaces [30]. The D-R isotherm is used to describe whether adsorption is physical or chemical. Consistent with each other, the fact that the Freundlich isotherm constants n is greater than 1 and the E values determined from D-R isotherms is less than 8 kJ/mol showed that the adsorption is physical [31]. An increase in both the  $q_m$  value for the Langmuir isotherm and the  $q_s$  value for the D-R isotherm is observed as the temperature rises from 303 K to 323 K. It is seen that the qm and qs values for the Langmuir and D-R isotherms decrease at 343 K. The reduction in  $q_m$  for the Langmuir isotherm can be attributed to the reduction in the maximum capacity for monolayer adsorption of oleic acid compared to the temperature of 323 K. Similarly, in the case of the D-R isotherm, it is observed that as the temperature reaches 343 K, the  $q_{e}$  value decreases, signifying a reduction in the saturation capacity of the adsorbent when compared to the temperature of 323 K. In contrast to the Langmuir and D-R isotherms, it is notable that the Freundlich adsorption capacity constant,  $k_{\rm F}$ , exhibits an increase with rising in all studied temperature. This increase implies that adsorption takes place on heterogeneous surfaces, leading to an augmented adsorption capacity as the temperature escalates. Furthermore, the elevation of adsorption with temperature suggests an endothermic nature of the process.

The oleic acid adsorption from soybean oil onto ion exchange resins was investigated by Jamal et al. [25]. High  $R^2$  values were obtained for Langmuir ( $R^2 = 0.99$ ) and Freundlich ( $R^2 = 1$ ) isotherms. Maddikeri et al. [8] investigated the removal of oleic and stearic acid from SFO on ion exchange resins and obtained high  $R^2$  values for Langmuir ( $R^2 = 0.93$ ) and Freundlich ( $R^2 = 1$ ) isotherms. The  $R^2$  values of Langmuir ( $R^2 = 0.94$ ) and Freundlich ( $R^2 = 1$ ) isotherms were obtained by Ilgen [9] for the removal of oleic acid from SFO on Amberlyst A26 and it was stated that the data fit the Freundlich isotherm better.

#### 3.5 Thermodynamic analysis

The enthalpy, entropy, and free energy changes that occur during the adsorption were investigated. The thermodynamic distribution coefficient K, which is expressed mathematically by the following equation in adsorption processes [8]:

$$\lim_{C \to 0} \left( q_e / C_e \right) = K \,. \tag{12}$$

To calculate the thermodynamic distribution coefficient K,  $C_e$  versus  $\ln(q_e/C_e)$  was plotted separately for each studied temperature, and K values were calculated from the intercept [32]. The plot for the determination of K values were presented in Fig. 8. The points are used to determine a straight line, and its intersection with the vertical axis provides the K value, which is also supported by previous studies [8, 32]. The Gibbs Free Energy was calculated by using the determined K values in Eq. (13).

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln K \tag{13}$$

$$\ln K = \frac{\Delta S^{\circ}}{R} - \frac{\Delta H^{\circ}}{RT}$$
(14)

The entropy and enthalpy values of the adsorption were determined by using the Van't Hoff equation (Eq. (14)). A straight line was obtained by plotting 1/T (K<sup>-1</sup>) versus ln*K*. The  $\Delta H^{\circ}$  value was calculated from the slope of this line ( $-\Delta H^{\circ}/R$ ), and the entropy value  $\Delta S^{\circ}$  from the intercept ( $\Delta S^{\circ}/R$ ) (Fig. 9). The calculated *K*,  $\Delta H^{\circ}$  (kJ/kmol),  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  (kJ/mol), and  $\Delta S^{\circ}$  (kJ/mol K) values for the adsorption are given in Table 4.

Considering the data in Table 4, it is seen that negative  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  values indicate that adsorption occurs spontaneously under experimental conditions. The positive  $\Delta S^{\circ}$  value again indicates that the adsorption takes place spontaneously while the positive  $\Delta H^{\circ}$  indicates



Fig. 8 Plots of  $\ln(q_e/C_e)$  vs.  $C_e$  for the oleic acid adsorption on the Amberlyst A21



Fig. 9 Van't Hoff plot for the oleic acid adsorption on the Amberlyst A21

 Table 4 Thermodynamic parameters for adsorption of oleic acid

| on to Amberlyst A21 |       |                             |                   |                             |  |
|---------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Т<br>(К)            | Κ     | $\Delta G^{\circ}$ (kJ/mol) | ∆S°<br>(kJ/mol K) | $\Delta H^{\circ}$ (kJ/mol) |  |
| 303.15              | 7.39  | -5.04                       |                   |                             |  |
| 323.15              | 16.13 | -7.47                       | 0.088             | 21.66                       |  |
| 343.15              | 19.91 | -8.53                       |                   |                             |  |

that the adsorption is endothermic. The positive value of  $\Delta H^{\circ}$  is also consistent with the results examining the effect of temperature. Maddikeri et al. [8] reported that the adsorption was exothermic where they performed the adsorption of oleic and stearic acid from SFO onto resins. Jamal et al. [25] observed that the removal of oleic acid on Dowex MR-450 using soybean oil was endothermic. Ilgen and Dulger [24] determined that removal of oleic acid from SFO using Zeolite 13X was endothermic.

#### **3.6 Desorption studies**

Adsorption of oleic acid from a 20% adsorbent ratio of oleic acid-SFO mixture on Amberlyst A21 was carried out at 303 K in order to use in the desorption study. After the resin was filtered, the adsorbed oleic acid was desorbed from Amberlyst A21 using 75 ml ether - 75 ml ethanol solution at 303 K. It was observed that 77.2% of the adsorbed oleic acid was desorbed by using 75 ml ether - 75 ml ethanol solution.

## 3.7 Adsorption studies using waste oil

FFA content of waste SFO was determined as 0.8% which supplied from a local restaurant. Adsorption experiments were performed at 303 K, 323 K and 343 K temperatures and using 20% adsorbent amount for 480 minutes, and the results were compared with the model waste oil under the same conditions. The obtained results are depicted in Fig. 10. Adsorption was observed to be less in waste



Fig. 10 Oleic acid removal from restaurant waste oil and model waste oil

restaurant oil than in model waste oil. It was thought that the impurities in the waste oil taken from the local restaurant caused this situation.

## **4** Conclusions

The adsorption of oleic acid added to SFO was carried out by using Amberlyst A21 as an adsorbent. The adsorption reached equilibrium 480 minutes later for all studied

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