



Attachment of Graphene oxide and montmorillonite onto quartz sand

Vasiliki I. Syngouna, Georgios I. Giannadakis, and Constantinos V. Chrysikopoulos

Technical University of Crete, Environmental Engineering Laboratory, Chania, Greece (kikisyg@yahoo.gr, ggiannadakis93@gmail.com, cvc@enveng.tuc.gr)

This study examines the interaction of GO with quartz sand and montmorillonite (STx-1b) colloids at pH=7, ionic strength IS=2 mM, and 25°C, under dynamic conditions. Moreover, the effect of pH on STx-1b kinetic attachment onto quartz sand was investigated. The experimental data suggested that pH affected slightly the attachment of STx-1b colloids onto quartz sand. GO was attached in greater amounts onto STx-1b than quartz sand. Also, the attachment of GO onto quartz sand was shown to increase slightly in the presence of STx-1b colloids. However, when GO and STx-1b coexisted, the total GO mass attached onto quartz sand, suspended STx-1b, and attached STx-1b was increased. Furthermore, the equilibrium attachment experimental data were fitted nicely with a Freundlich isotherm, and the attachment kinetics were satisfactorily described with a pseudo-second-order model. Finally, the extended DLVO (XDLVO) theory was used to quantify the various interaction energy profiles based on electrokinetic and hydrodynamic measurements.