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## Measurement of the specific surface of perlite

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## MEASUREMENT OF THE SPECIFIC SURFACE OF PERLITE

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THESIS

## SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT

## OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE

## DEGREE OF

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

## AT THE

## NEWARK COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

 $\mathbf{r}$ 

## BY

## RICHARD G. LAMBORN

## AND

## CARL H. VOGEL

## MAY, 1957

## Approved: Head of Department and Thesis Advisor

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**Approval of Thesis** 

**For** 

**Department of Chemical Engineering** 

**Newark College of Engineering** 

**By** 

**Faculty Committee** 

**Approved** 

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**Newark, New Jersey June,** 1957

The authors express their sincere appreciation to Dr. Charles L. Mantell for assuming the responsibility of Thesis Advisor and guiding this work from inception to completion and to Perma-Rock Products, Inc., of Baltimore, Maryland for the financial assistance without which this work could not have been done.



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#### **Abstract**

**A low temperature gas adsorption apparatus was designed for the purpose of measuring the total surface area of solids using the well known B.E.T. method.** 

**The apparatus was designed so that several different gases could be used as adsorbates without evacuating the gas reservoirs each time a different adsorbate was to be used. This was accomplished by providing three gas reservoirs of sufficient capacity to allow several determinations to be made at moderate initial reservoir pressures of from two to three pounds per square inch. A separate bulb and manometer system was supplied for determining the saturation pressures of adsorbates used. Although the primary objective was to determine the surface area of expanded perlite, the gas burette volumes of the apparatus were designed large enough to permit the evaluation of surface areas over a wide range of values.** 

**Several samples with known areas were checked using N2 as the adsorbate to establish confidence factors and the values for the surface areas of several perlite samples are reported.** 

 $\mathbf I$ 

## **Statement of Problem**

**The** purpose **of the work undertaken in this report was to determine values for the surface area of Perlite.** 

**Various methods of measurement were to be evaluated, and the best possible one was to be adopted, with the thought in mind not only of obtaining accurate results on Perlite, but with the possibility of applying** this **method of surface area measurement to other adsorbents.** 

**The method of measurement chosen is to be described in detail as to design and operation.** 

 $II$ 

#### **Introduction**

**The importance of being able to measure accurately the surface areas of solids has long been recognized. Many methods have been devised and. used for specific materials. The great progress made in the field. of Catalysis would not have been possible were it not for the development of techniques which made the accurate measurement of catalysts and catalyst support areas possible. These measurements make it possible to design catalysts to perform in specific reactions. Therefore, manufacturing processes built around catalysts can be**  controlled with a greater degree of certainty. Knowledge of **surface areas also aid in the study of molecular structures, reaction mechanisms, and reaction kinetics.** 

**Much theory has been developed in the fields of adsorption**  and chemisorption in the past few years. These new develop**ments are based on facts uncovered through knowledge of surface area determinations and accurate definitions of specific surface. The specific surface of porous adsorbents and catalysers is one of their most important properties. A knowledge of the specific surface is necessary for calculating the amount and character of sorptions, surface energies, heat of adsorption, and for reaching basic conclusions regarding the character of a sorption process.** 

III

## I. General Survey

A physical examination of expanded perlite revealed that this substance was of a friable and glassy nature. The particles viewed under a Leitz metallurgical microscope appeared to be hollow spheres and segments of spherical surfaces. Some particles had indentures or blow holes which perhaps developed when the raw perlite was popped or expanded. These indentures or pores do not have the regular pore diameter and orientation that is associated with the porous solids or adsorbents.

An analysis of perlite ore is given below. This is a typical analysis of an ore mined at the John-Claire Mine in Rosita, Colorado. (1)



Table I

 $-1$   $-$ 

Surface areas can be roughly approximated by establishing a shape or surface factor which would enable one to calculate the specific surface when the characteristic dimension had been measured. Sieving, elutriation, and sedimentation methods have been developed to accomplish this. It was felt that because of the friable nature of perlite and the irregular shapes of the particles these methods would not yield accurate or reproducible results.

The electron microscope, photometric or light extinction techniques based on absorption of light by solid particles dispersed uniformly in a fluid medium would be of dubious value when employed to measure the surface of a translucent material such as perlite. Pidgeon and Dodd (2) measured the area of quartz powder by the microscopic and gas adsorption method. The areas calculated by gas adsorption techniques were consistently higher than those obtained by the electron microscope. This was perhaps due to the ability of the gas to penetrate cracks and fissures that were overlooked in the microscopic study. Pidgeon and his co-worker Dodd also reported lower areas were obtained by H<sub>20</sub> permeability methods. This seems to indicate the cracks and fissures were inaccessible to the flowing fluid. Therefore, the buoyant, pock-marked surface and spherical shells of perlite would not lend themselves to permeability, fluid flow, or microscopic method of surface

 $-2 -$ 

measurement.

The result of heat of wetting, adsorption from solution, gas adsorption, and electron microscope surface area measurements for ZnO2 pigments are reported by Ewing and Rhoda  $(3)$ . They reported that the electron microscope method yielded inconsistent results due to the uncertainty of observing the edges of the crystal or optical illusion attributable to refraction of light and poor resolution power of the microscope. A better correlation of surface areas of ZnO2 was obtained when gas adsorption and adsorption from solution techniques were employed. Daxad  $#11$ , a surface wetting agent of the alkyl-aryl type was employed, and the amount adsorbed from solution was measured with an interferometer. The irregular shapes of the perlite particles, "non-wettable" pores and poor adsorption properties indicated that adsorption from solution would not be a feasible method for surface area measurement.

- 3 -

#### Litereture Survey

The method of Brunauer, Emmett, and Teller (4) for the measurement of surface area using gas adsorption has become well known and widely used. They postulated the theory that the adsorption of a gas on an adsorbent causes a film of adsorbed molecules to be deposited on the surface of the adsorbent. This film is multimolecular in character. Plotting an adsorption isotherm of the volume of gas adsorbed  $V_{\text{ad}s}$  vs relative pressure  $P_r/P_o$ , where  $P_r$  is the pressure in mm of Hg at which  $V_{\text{ad},g}$  was deposited, yields a typical "S" shaped curve. The deposition or adsorption of a unimolecular layer of gas molecules is said to be complete at the first pronounced change in the slope of the curve. This point of change in slope was called point "B". From the value of  $V_m$  at this point, the number N of gas molecules can then be calculated. The area of a gas molecule is found from equation (1).

(1) 
$$
A = 4(0.866) \left[ \frac{M}{4\sqrt{2}\text{Ad}} \right]^{2/3}
$$

where M is the molecular weight of the gas used, A is Avogadro's number (6.02 x  $10^{23}$  molecules /g nol), and d is the deneity. This formula assumes two dimensional close packing of the gas molecules on the surface of the adsorbent. Therefore, the total area  $\sum A = NA$ .

However, in the measurement of the surface area of most

 $-4 -$ 

**adsorbents, the whole adsorption isotherm had to be plotted**  in order that point "B" could be ascertained with certainty. **This experimental method was long and tedious.** 

**In 1936 Brunauer and his co-workers proposed a refinement to their original method.** 

The equation  $\frac{P_T}{P} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{C-1}{2} \frac{P_T}{P}$  $\overline{V_{\text{GGS}}(F_0 - F_r)} = \frac{1}{V_m C}$   $\overline{V_w C}$   $\overline{V_w}$ where  $P_T$   $\equiv$  pressure at which gas is **adsorbed**   $F_a$  = saturation pressure of the gas **V = ml. gas required for monolayer**   $V_{\text{ads}}$  =  $\mu$ . gas adsorbed at  $\frac{\mu}{P}$ **C = constant related to heat of liquefaction**   $\frac{P_{\text{r}}}{P_{\text{r}}}$  = 0.05 - 0.35 for important <sup>r</sup>**o B point range** 

**is the equation of the isotherm of the multimolecular edsorption theory for adsortion taking pl**a**ce on a free surface. It is a** linear equation, i.e., the plot of the function  $\frac{P_T}{P}$  $V_{\text{ads}}(P_0-P_T)$ 

vs.  $\frac{p}{q}$  gives a straight line if the theory is obeyed.  $P_{\mathbf{Q}}$ The intercept of the straight line is  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\epsilon}}$  and the slope is  $\frac{1}{V_m}$ . Thus, one can obtain the two constants V<sub>m</sub> and C from the experimental data. Having found V<sub>id</sub>, the area can easily **be calculated. (5)** 

**Advantages and. limitations** of the surface **area determination by gas adsorption are:** 

$$
-5-
$$

- 1. The experimental technique is simple. If the **gas used** is inert, such as nitrogen or argon, the **adsorbate** surface area is unchanged and the adsorbate can be recovered intact.
- 2. The method is accurate. Comparison with results obtained visual methods shows relative surface areas agreeing within  $10\%$ .
- 3, The method is universal. It can be **applied to any porous or finely** divided adsorbent. (6)
- 4. The gas adsorption method is limited to finely divided substances. It cannot measure **the**  surface of coarse particles accurately. This is due to the inaccuracy in measuring the dead space and large dead space corrections must **be**  applied to small adsorption values.
- 5. In order to get the true surface of an adsorbent by gas adsorption, one should use the smallest gas molecules. A and H2 molecules are larger then He, Ne, and H2, **but the** former are more inert. No chemisorption complicates the determination of their van der Waals adsorption isotherms. If the adsorbent has exceedingly fine pores, No gives erroneous results. Emmett (7) found that  $50\%$  dehydrated chabasite adsorbs

 $-6-$ 

# H<sub>2</sub> at  $77^{\circ}$  K, but practically no N<sub>2</sub> entered the pores at that temperature.

From surface area measurements, the average particle size may be determined.

$$
S = \frac{6}{\rho_{s}d}
$$
 where  $S =$  specific surface  

$$
\rho_{s} = \text{ density of adsorbent}
$$

$$
\ddot{a} = \text{average particle diameter}
$$

In 1944 Harkins and Jura (8) pointed cut that the mean area occupied by the gas molecules used as adsorbates was not known accurately. Some areas reported for the No  $\overline{Q}$ molecule are  $13.8$  and  $16.2$  aq. A per molecule at  $\cdot$ Harkins and Jura developed a method by which the area of the adsorbent could be measured by vapor adsorption without the assumption of a molecular area for the adsorbate.

$$
\log \frac{p}{P_0} = B - \frac{A}{v^2}
$$

A plot of log  $\frac{2\pi}{P_0}$  vs.  $\frac{1}{v^2}$  yields a straight line over a con**sid**erable range of the plot. The slope increases as the surface area increases. The area then is given by the equation  $\sum A = kS^{\frac{1}{2}}$  where S is the slope of the straight line and k is a constant for a given adsorbed vapor at a given temperature. The value of k for  $N_2$  is 4.06 at -195.8°C.

This above theory is based on monomolecular adsorption in the vapor phase. If the vapor phase condensed film is not present, the temperature of the isotherm must be lowered until this two dimensional phase exists.

$$
-7-
$$

**Below in table II are values obtained by Harkins and Jura on several metallic oxides using their proposed method and the BET modified procedure. (8)** 

## **TABLE II**



**Livingston (9) states that a Harkins and Jura plot gives a straight line at from 0.2 -** 0.4 **relative pressures.** 

**In 1947 Zettlemoyer and Walker (10) measured the surface**  areas of activated magnesias using N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms. **They employed both the BET and H&J methods using 15.25 sq. A**  for N<sub>2</sub> area on porous solids recommended by H&J. Activated **magnesias yielded type II and IV isotherms. The electron photomicrographs showed the XP magnesia to have a surface of porous plates.** 



#### TABLE III

Gabriel and Cooley used a homologous series of aliphatic acids on a non-ionic adsorbent.

Blocker, Craig, and Orr (11) developed a steady gas flow method for surface determination. The areas obtained in twenty minute runs were in good agreement with values obtained by the conventional BET method. However, poor agreement was found with substances which were "slow" adsorbers.

Emmett (12) found in a critical review of the method of Harkins and Jura that the value of k in the equation

Area =  $k$   $s^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , obtained by heat of wetting or immersion in water, was questionable. He states that the agreement of values for surface areas obtained by the Harkins and Jura method on TiO<sub>2</sub> and the BET values was only fortuitous.

Askey and Feachem (13) reported as early as 1938 that the extrapolation of an "S" shaped isotherm to zero pressure  $P_T$ or  $\frac{1}{p}$  = o yielded an intercept point V<sub>m</sub> which gave values

10 — 30 per cent smaller than those obtained by the BET point "B" method.

One objection to the use of the BET method on porous media is found repeatedly throughout the literature. A correct assumption must be made of the molecular area of the adsorbate molecule in order to convert the volume of gas adsorbed at the completion of the monolayer into total surface area. The area of the N<sub>2</sub> molecule, used almost universally in a BET determination, has been reported as varying from 13.6 to 16.9  $\lambda^2$  with peaks at 14.05, 15.25, and 16.05  $\lambda^2$ .

Additional references consulted- in this literature search together with short abstracts can be found in the appendix of this report.

 $-10 -$ 

## II. Experimental Program

A study of the various known methods of surface area determination snows that surface areas are obtainable directly only by the BET and. Permeability methods. In all other methods, areas are obtained using other parameters. It would appear that the BET gas adsorption technique is the most convenient and accurate method yet devised. The other methods require a greater number of experimental points and more tedious calculations without producing more significant or reliable area values than can be obtained by the BET or point "B" methods.

The above reasons, substantiated by the physico-chemical nature of perlite and the inherent problems that would be encountered using the known methods of surface area determination as listed in section I, indicated **that** gas adsorption techniques would be a more logical approach to the problem.

Therefore, it was decided to use the BET low temperature gas adsorption technique and to design apparatus that could be used for a variety of materials and with several different gases.

The samples of perlite furnished by the Perma-Rock Corporation were examined under a Leitz metallurgical microscope. It was felt that #100 and #300 filter aids would

 $-11 -$ 



 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Perlite--#300 Filter Aid Magnification 80X

**have surface area values in the same order of magnitude and that the spherical surfaces would afford dead space values within the limits of the equipment. Dead space values are discussed elsewhere in this report.** 

**Samples of Celite filteraid, Darco S-51 decolorizing carbon, and Silex sand were obtained. The Johns-Manville filter aids and the Silex sand had reported surface areas measured at the Johns-Manville research center using the**  BET method with N<sub>2</sub> as the adsorbate.

**All samples were degassed at 110°C in an oven at atmospheric pressure for 24 hours and for one hour at 26"Hg vacuum prior to the test. Attempts to degas the sample in the sample tube while it was attached to the high vacuum apparatus were unsuccessful. The sample tube collapsed on one occasion. Also, the heat from the adsortion bulb on sample tube was conducted to stopcock "A", causing the Apiezon grease to melt. This resulted in a leak either at the stopcock or at the ground tapered joint connecting the adsorption bulb to the system.** 

**No other attempt was made to activate or clean the surfaces of the samples. Jack Eigler, a graduate student working at the Newark College of Engineering on the adsorption of substances on Perlite, found that chemical treatment did not increase the adsorotivity or the amounts adsorbed.** 

 $-13-$ 

**The samples and the apparatus were pumped down to a**  vacuum of 5.0 x 10<sup>-4</sup> mm or lower prior to the dead space deter**mination. It was felt that this vacuum was sufficient and that the number of molecules of gas left in the system at that pressure would introduce little error to the surface area determinations. Evacuation of the Helium used in the dead space determinations was done at room temperature at**   $\alpha$  pressure of less than 5.0 x 10<sup>-3</sup> microns.

**The sample tubes were tapped on a hard surface while being filled in order to obtain close packing and to keep the dead space volume at a minimum.** 

**Nitrogen gas was used as the adsorbate in all runs.**  It was felt that N<sub>2</sub> gas would not chemisorb and give step **shaped isotherms in the region of 0.1 to 0.3 relative pressured. N2 is used more universally than any of the other gases in BET surface area determinations. It has been found that better correlations are obtained with results of other methods of surface area determinations with BET gas adsorption areas when N2 gas was used. No phase change has**  been reported to occur for N<sub>2</sub> at -195°C over the relative **pressures range of 0.O5 to 0.2.** 

**Liquid nitrogen, commercial grade, sup**p**lied by Hoffman Laboratories, Newark,** N. **J., was used for the low temperature batch, to provide isothermal conditions for the adsorption** 

 $-14 -$ 

runs. Saturation pressure determinations were made at the conclusion of every run to determine the temperature of the liquid N2 bath and corrections were applied when calculating the values of the adsorption isotherm points.

## III. Theory

If one could completely cover the surface of a solid with a monolayer of gas molecules and count the molecules, it would be possible to determine the total area of the solid since the area covered by a single molecule of a gas can be determined from known physical constants of the gas.

The volume of gas which will be adsorbed on any given surface is dependent on both the temperature and pressure of the gas. If the temperature decreases, the amount of gas adsorbed decreases; conversely, if the pressure increases, adsorption of the gas increases. In determining an adsorption isotherm and the surface area from an adsorption isotherm, the temperature is kept constant and the amount of gas adsorbed is controlled and measured by changing the pressure of the gas in a closed system.

In order to minimize variables introduced by gas behavior, the temperature used for gas adsorption should be at or near the normal boiling point of the gas adsorbate.

The basic assumption upon which the BET theory is based is that several layers of gas can be adsorbed on a solid surface, that is, that adsorption is multimolecular in nature. Brunauer, Emmett, and Teller (14) developed the following formula (a) for multimolecular adsorption on a free surface:

$$
V_{\text{ads}} = \frac{V_{\text{m}} P_{\text{r}}^{\text{C}}}{\left(\frac{P_{\text{c}} - P_{\text{r}}}{P_{\text{r}}}\right) \left[\frac{1 + (C - 1) P_{\text{r}}}{P_{\text{O}}}\right]}
$$
 (a)

$$
-16 -
$$

where  $V_{\text{ada}}$  is the volume of gas at 0°C and 1 atmosphere pressure,  $P_T$  is the pressure,  $P_0$  is the vapor pressure of the gas at the temperature of the adsorbent, C is a constant related to the heat of adsorption and  $V_m$  is the volume of gas (stp) necessary to form a single layer of molecules over the entire area. The development of the Langmuir equation and the BET modification is covered with great detail in the reference mentioned above.

The quantities  $P_T$ ,  $P_Q$ , and  $V_{\text{adg}}$  are determined experimentally and  $V_m$  and  $C$  can be obtained by rearranging the above equation into a linear form and plotting  $\frac{P_r}{P_r}$  vs  $\frac{P_r}{P_r}$  $\overline{V_{\text{ads}}(P_o-P)}$  $P_{r} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{c_{r}} \left( \frac{P_{r}}{r} \right)$  (b)  $\overline{v_{\text{ads}}(P_{\text{o}}-P_{\text{r}})} = \overline{v_{\text{m}}}\sigma + \overline{v_{\text{m}}}\sigma\left(\overline{P_{\text{o}}}\right)$ therefore the slope  $S = C-1$  (c)  $V_{\mathbf{m}}\mathbf{C}$ and the intercept I =  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{a}}$  (d)  $V_{m}C$ 

For most isotherm data plotted in this manner, a straight line is obtained for only the lower portion of the isotherm between relative pressures  $\frac{P_T}{P_O}$  of 0.05 to 0.30. The equations (c) and (d) can be solved for  $V_m$  and  $C.$   $\therefore$   $V_m = \frac{1}{S+1}$  and  $C = \frac{S}{I} + 1.$ 

 $V_m$  can therefore be calculated from the slope and intercept of the straight line portion of the curve. Once  $V_m$  is known, the total area is easily obtained.

 $-17-$ 

Area (m2) = 4.38 dm(ml stp)

The constant  $4.38$  was derived by condensing the conversion factors into one number. If the average area covered by an  $M<sub>2</sub>$ gas molecule at -195°C is 16.25  $\lambda^2$  per molecule, assuming close packing, (1) one ml. of gas at standard conditions would cover an area of  $4.38$   $m^2$ .

Area of 1 ml  $N_2$  gas in  $m^2 =$ 

$$
\frac{(16.25) \frac{\text{R2}}{\text{molecule } (6.02) \times (10^{23}) \text{ molecules } (1) \text{ml } 1 \times 10^{-20} \text{m}^2/\text{R}^2}}{22.400 \text{ cm}^3 (0.99997) \text{ ml/cm}^3}
$$

 $= 4.38 \text{ m}^2/\text{m}$ l N<sub>2</sub> stp.

Brunauer, Emmett and Teller (15) arrived at the following formula for the area of an adsorbed gas molecule, assuming induced dipoles in two successive layers and close packed spheres.

$$
A = 4(0.866) \left[ \frac{M}{4 \sqrt{2} \text{ Ad}} \right]^{2/3}
$$

where 0.666 is a constant derived from geometric considerations of close two dimensional packing,  $\mathbb{N}$  is the molecular weight, A is Avogadro's constant, and d is the density of the gas in the solid phase.

The volume of the capillary tubing from the zero on the gas burette to the stopcock A and the zero reading of the manometer is found in the following fashion. (16)

 $FV = K$ 

 $V = V_o + V_{LB}$ , where  $V_o$  is the volume of the capillary tubing and  $V_{t}$  is the volume of gas contained in the gas burettes. Substituting  $V_o$  +  $V_{LB}$  for  $V_s$ , we get

$$
PV_0 + PV_{LB} = k
$$
  
rearranging, 
$$
PV_{LB} = k - PV_0
$$

$$
\frac{d(PV_{LB})}{dp} = -V_0
$$

 $\label{eq:1} \begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^{(1)} &= \mathbf{A}^{(1)} \mathbf{1} \$ 

A plot of  $PV_{LB}$  vs P should give a straight line, the slope of which is the negative of the free volume  $V_o$ .

## Discussion of Results

The surface area values obtained from samples run on the equipment and procedures outlined in this report are not consistent with the reported surface areas. The best correlation is within 9% deviation exhibited by Celite 403 with a reported area of 21.0  $m^2/g$ . The measured area was found to be 19.1  $m^2/g$ or 1.9  $m^2/g$  less than the reported area.

However, the opposite situation exists with the samples of Silex sand. The measured area was larger than the reported area by a considerable amount. The samples used as standards had no certification of correctness. It is not known whether we duplicated the same desorption, activation, drying, or degree of vacuum prior to the adsorption runs as was used in the reported surface area determinations.

It is generally felt throughout the field of surface area measurement by gas adsorption that an agreement within  $6 - 8$  m<sup>2</sup>/g on nonporous media is rather good. All of the determinations made on our apparatus fall well within this range.

The anomalous results obtained for 100 and 300 Perlite filter aid eannot be as readily explained. These screened fractions *were* not classified by the experimentors. The photomicrographs show a decided range of particle size. Therefore, one cannot conclude from the facts at our disposal, that is, the manufacturing techniques, sizing, and screening

 $-20 -$ 

history of the Perlite samples, that 300 filter aid should necessarily be composed of smaller particles and, therefore, have a greater external or internal surface area. Considering the confidence factor established through the results of the runs on known materials, one might conclude that the areas of 2.56 and  $3.16 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$  for 300 filter aid and 10.7 and 7.2 m<sup>2</sup>/g for 100 filter aid are reasonably correct. Perhaps if a more fortuitous choice of slope of the curve were made on the plots of  $P_r/P_o$  vs  $P_r/V_{ada}(P_o+P_r)$  the values of surface area for any particular material would agree more closely with each other.

The magnitude of that part of the experimental error resulting from the selection of sample size and sample tube size (resulting in low dead space values) was kept as small as possible in every run. If the surface by physical inspection is known to be large a small sample should be taken, however, for materials of small surface areas it is necessary to take large samples and use adsorption tubes with large dead space values. The spread of the values obtained for 100 Perlite filter aid may be partially attributed to the difference in sample sizes used. The dead space values were 58.2 and 73.1 ml. Any errors in the pressure readings taken during the runs or deviations from the perfect gas laws would show a marked error in the final results. Loebenstein and Deitz (17) have shown that the percentage error can vary from 0.1 to 10.4% depending on the sample size and dead space  $V_a$  used.

 $-21 -$ 

## Conclusion

It was felt that the apparatus as designed and constructed worked. well and that satisfactory experimental results were obtained. However, when the apparatus was used, several weak points in design and manipulation manifested. themselves. These will be discussed along with proposed corrections later in this section.

Listed below are important points that should be considered in using this BET apparatus.

- 1. Small adsorption or small differences in adsorption will magnify errors in relatively large measured volumes. Large gas volume adsorptions and small dead space volumes are therefore desirable.
- 2. Diffusion of the adsorbate gas may be slow. A range of  $10 - 20$  minutes may have to be allowed for equilibrium to come about at any given pressure of  $P_T/P_O$  depending on what portion of the isotherm the particular point lies and the anount of gas adsorbed. This is particularly true of a substance such as Perlite. The adsorption isotherm plot of Run 13 shows inaccuracies in the points obtained below a relative pressure of 0.1, presumably due to the fact that equilibrium conditions were not attained.

 $3.$  A system of finely divided solid and adsorbate gas at

 $-22 -$ 

low pressure has poor heat conductivity and the heat of adsorption must be discipated in order to maintain isothermal condlitions. The liquid level of the N<sub>2</sub> bath surrounding the adsorption bulb should be checked frequently and the level be kept well above the adsorbent level.

- 4. At low pressure,  $P_T/P_{\alpha}$  and low volumes of gas adsorbed, adsorption isotherm contours may be sensitive to the nature of the adsorbing surface. Step shaped isotherms may result. Perlite isotherms indicate that the tenacity or binding forces existing at low pressures are not great. This may result in gas molecules being adsorbed and desorbed sinultaneously, shifting at random, resulting in unstable equilibrium conditions.
- 5. With reference to volumes of gas to be adsorbed and dead space values incurred, a sample of 5-10 g should have an area of at least  $1m^2$ . For areas  $\zeta 1n^2$ , use a gas for an adsorbate having 30 lowa saturation pressure that the number of molecules left in the gas phase during measurements is of the same order of magnitude as those actually adsorbed on the surface being measured.
- 6. Maintain constant temperature conditions in the

 $-23$  -

laboratory housing the equipment. Sudden changes in temperature introduce errors in the volume readings.

- 7. Outgas or pump down the equipment to the same degree of vacuum each time prior to commencing an actual surface area determination.
- 8. In conjunction rith items 2, 3, and *4,* be sure to return the mercury level in the manometer to the zero point after each addition of gas. This zero point should be in the small capillary section of the tubing. The zero point used in this work was in the large tube just below the small capillary portion. It was felt that this increased the error in readings below  $P_p/P_0=0.20$ .
- 9. Ascertain whether the sample is sintering, decrepitating or breaking down in any manner when subjected to a high vacuum. Surface areas may change in this manner.

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Results Table IV **B.E.T. B.E.T.**  Area Reported **Area Cale. Sample**   $m^2/g$  $m^2/g$ **Designation Run No. Daroo S-51** 9 1,654. **1,600-1,800 Silex Sand (C-46739) 18 18.1 12.5**  $\neq$  **0.6 a e 20 16.8 12.5 + 0.6 Filter Cell (C-46585) 12 12.75 19.2 A A 11** 15.62 19.2 **#300 Perlite Filter**  A<sub>1d</sub> 2.56 ----**i i 15** 15 3.16 **#100 Perlite Filter Aid 16 10.7 e N 17** 9.3  $\hat{\mathbf{H}}$ ń <sup>N</sup>19 7.2 ............. **Celite** 403 **14 19.1 21.0**  $\uparrow$  **1.0** 

**The point "B" method was used to determine the area of several samples to obtain a correlation between both methodi. The results are tabulated below.** 

**Table V** 

Run Number	B.E.T. Pt "B"	B.E.T. st.line plot $m^2/g$
9	1610	1654
12	11.8	12.75
13	3.06	2.56

 $-25 -$
#### **DESIGN OF EQUIPMENT**

**The design of the particular system used** *in* **this series of experiments was adopted to a large degree from that which is described by Barr and Anhorn (5)•** 

**Certain modifications were initiated, and these will be discussed in detail later in this section.** 

**Good and bad features were disclosed, in actually working with this apparatus, and these too will come under detailed scrutiny.** 

**Of prime importance in constructing any equipment of this nature is a good glass blower. We were fortunate in obtaining the services of Otto Greiner Company of Newark, New Jersey to act in this capacity. With one exception, work was well laid out; and assembled in a manner which provided for ease of operation, and minimum trouble from the standpoint of leaks.** 

#### **Mechanical Vacuum Pump**

**In choosing the mechanical vacuum pump, thought must be given to obtaining one of sufficient capacity to do the Job, but not one so large as to be far beyond the range of the mercury diffusion pump delivering gases to** *it.* **An oversize pump will, of course, be as effective, and might lower the startup time; but once the mercury diffusion pump is in operation, the mechanical pump can only remove what it receives from the diffusion pump. A large excess capacity is not Justifiable.** 

**The Kinney KC-2 pump chosen for this application has** 

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**performed well under operating conditions. Time required to bring the system down to 1.0 micron pressure is usually about thirty minutes--providing there are no leaks and the system is free of moisture.** 

#### **Mercury Diffusion Pump**

**At pressures lower than 1.0 micron, the molecules of gas remaining in the system are too widely dispersed to effect further evacuation by means of the mechanical pump alone. It is here that the mercury diffusion pump enters the picture.** 

**In effect, the diffusion pump traps the relatively small quantity of slow moving gas molecules in mercury vapor. As this vapor is condensed, the number of molecules are concentrated and their movement accelerated so that the mechanical vacuum pump can remove them from the system.** 

**The diffusion pump used on this particular apparatus is** *of*  **a three stage glass design, fabricated by Otto Greiner Company. The ultimate vacuum obtainable, according to the manufacturer,**  is about  $1 \times 10^{-8}$  mm. This value was never reached during **operation--due probably to small leaks which were not detectable or measurable with our equipment.** 

A liquid nitrogen cold trap was instaled in line between **the mercury diffusion pump and the rest of system to prevent the moisture vapors from entering pump.** 

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#### **The McLeod Vacuum Gauge**

**A McLeod gauge capable of reading a vacuum as low as 1.0 x 10-3 microns was constructed for this BET apparatus.** 

Consider the formula,  $P = 10,000$  h  $\left(\frac{y}{y}\right)$ , and figure (1).

**If v is the volume in ml of gas in the top of the closed capillary, V is the total volume in ml. of the bulb and capillary, and h is the difference in level in cm of mercury between the closed capillary and the side arm capillary, then P will be the pressure in microns in the system being measured.** 

**For example, the volume of the large bulb including the capillary is 250 ml and if the volume v of the gas in the closed capillary is 0.0250 and h is 1 cm,** 

> **P is 10,000 (1) 0.0250, 250**

 $P = 1.0$  micron or  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$  mm mercury and the **pressure will be 1.0 microns for each cm difference in level.** 

**The constants 10,000/250 can be divided and a simple formula evolved to facilitate rapid pressure readings. Thus,**   $P = h(v)40$  is the formula to be used for the McLeod gauge on **this apparatus.** 



McLeod Gauge

# Figure 1

#### **Vaouum Reservoirs**

**In place of the vacuum reservoir tanks used quite frequently in maintaining control of the various mercury columns, it was decided to make use of a second mechanical vacuum pump. Vacuum reservoir tanks must be quite large to be effective. (On the**  order of 20 to 25 liter capacity.) This would mean a consider**able amount of extra space since two such tanks would be required. In addition, these tanks have to be pumped down periodically. Their only advantage lies in the vacuum reserve available in case of electrical power failure.** 

**The vacuum pump used in this instance was a small Cenco pump loaned to us by Metals Disintegrating Company, of Elizabeth, New Jersey.** 

#### **Gas Reservoirs**

**Containers must be incorporated in the apparatus for storage of gases used in making the runs.** 

**These are installed in such a manner as to permit being completely evacuated prior to admitting gases, and are equipped with email indicating manometers to check relative gas pressure.** 

**It was decided to install three such units each of one liter capacity in the apparatus to permit storage of a widcr variety of gases, and to make the apparatus more flexible in its use.** 

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#### **Mercury Seals**

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**If the need should arise for storing gas in the gas reservoirs at pressures lower than atmospheric, mercury seals are provided. These insure no contamination of the gases by air (due to leaky stopcock) when operating the reservoirs at the lower pressures. When operating at above atmospheric pressure with Nitrogen or Helium, it is not essential to operate these seals since any leakage will be from the inside.** 

**When operating the out-offs in the open position, the mercury level is maintained just below the end of the tube from the gas reservoir. In the closed position, the mercury is raised to the upper stopcock which is then closed. To open again the mercury is lowered to the original level. In the closed position there is no possibility of gas coming in contact with stopcock to vacuum section of system, and no chance of air leaking into the gas reservoir.** 

#### **Gas Burettes**

**Basically these are composed of a series of calibrated bulbs connected by capillary tubing with engraved reference marks.** 

**The purpose is to measure the volume of adsorbate gas before admitting it to adsorption bulb. With this in mind, it was decided to install two such burettes to insure a wide range of gas volumes (from 8.125 ml to 259.125 ml).** 

**Sinoe volume changes with temperature, these burettes were water jacketed, and provision was made for a thermometer** 

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**well for temperature measurements. To eliminate temperature fluctuations such as were encountered during the runs reported, a constant temperature bath should be installed.** 

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#### **Manometers**

**Manometers were constructed of 10 mm glass tubing to lessen error due to meniscus effects of the mercury. Mercury level must be adjusted to zero point on the pressure leg of manometer to maintain a constant volume in the system. To avoid errors due to capillary effects the zero point should have the same diameter as opposite leg; and to maintain a minimum dead space in system, zero point should be established as close to capillary tube as possible.** 

**In order to avoid errors in reading the manometer due to parallax, the use of scales engraved on a mirror is of definite advantage.** 

#### **Adsorption Bulb**

**Since size of sample will vary with type of material being evaluated, no set design can be used.** 

**In some systems the adsorption bulb is filled, and then sealed to apparatus. When run is over, tubing must be broken to remove adsorption bulb. This necessitates a fair amount of skill in glass blowing to insure a leak-free joint.** 

**In order to avoid this situation, it was decided to construct the adsorption bulbs with a ground glass connector for easy connection and removal from system.** 

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#### **Gas Purification Bulbs**

**This is a series of bulbs of about 250 ml capacity each. In order of use they contain copper wire, glass beads, and activated charcoal. purpose is the removal of oxygen and moisture from the gases used in making a run. These gas purification bulbs should be considered as a refinement to the basic system. Unless very critical determinations are in order, the authors do not believe the use of these bulbs to be essential.** 

**Original installation prevented use of heater on the bulb containing the copper wire, and use of liquid nitrogen baths on bulbs containing glass beads and charcoal. This condition should be corrected by wider spacing of these bulbs if it is desired to use them in the future.** 

### **Tubing**

**Capillary tubing used in adsorption section of system has a 2.0 mm bore. Tubing of 10.0 mm bore was used throughout rest of apparatus with the exception of the high vacuum header. Tubing of 25.0 mm bore was selected for high vacuum header to insure minimum resistance of flow of the gas molecules being removed by the vacuum pumps.** 

#### **Stopcocks**

**Both two way and three way stopcocks are of tapered construction. Two way stopcocks have diagonal bore to minimize possibility of leakage. If it is necessary to regrind stopcocks,** 

 $-33 -$ 

**a dispersion of fine alundum in water works quite well. This can be applied with a piece of soft cotton. Authors recommend use of Apiezon N grease for all stopcocks. This grease is manufactured by Metropolitan-Vickers Electrical 0o. Ltd. of England and is quite resistant to all gases normally encountered in the equipment.** 

**Mechanical Vacuum Pump (D)** 

**Manufacturer - Kinney Manufacturing Division The New York Air Brake Company** 

**Model--------- KC-2** 

Type---------- Compound

Ultimate Pressure------ 0.2 Micron, McLeod Gauge

Free Air Displacement-- 2.0 CFM

RPM<del>----------------------</del> 755

**Motor H.P.**-------------  $\frac{1}{4}$  (110 volt)

**Motor RPM--------------- 1800** 

**Oil Capacity 6 oz.** 

Cooling ------------------ Air

Shaft Diameter---------  $3/4$  inch

**Inlet Connection- 3/4 inch Screwed** 

Valve Type------------- Feather

Net Weight, Complete --- 70 pounds

#### **Mercury Diffusion Pump (F)**

**Manufacturer - Otto Greiner Company** 

Type----------- Three Stage

 $U1$ timate Pressure------  $1 \times 10^{-8}$  mm

**Mercury Capacity 4 pounds** 

Heating---------------- Resistance wound coil controlled **by rheostat** 

Cooling----------------- Water

#### **McLeod Gauge (H)**

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**Manufacturer - Otto Greiner Company Bulb Volume - 250.0 cc Mercury Ultimate Reading - 10-8 microns**  Accuracy  $-1 \times 10^{-8}$  microns

# **Gas Purification Trap (J)**

**Contents - Reduced copper wire** 

**Purpose - Operated at about 350 degrees Centigrade to**  remove all but approximately 0.05% of the **oxygen from gases being used in the system. Oxidized copper wire can be regenerated by passing Hydrogen gas through trap.** 

#### **Overflow Bubbler (K)**

**Contents - Mercury** 

**Purpose - Regulates maximum pressure at which gas may be stored in the gas reservoir (N).** 

#### **Gas Purification Trap (L)**

**Contents - Glass Beads** 

**Purpose - Operated in a bath of liquid nitrogen to remove moisture from gases used in system.** 

#### **Gas Purification Trap (M)**

**Contents - Activated charcoal** 

**Purpose - Operated in a bath of liquid nitrogen to remove all but the inert gases from Helium.** 

#### **Gus** Reservoirs (N)

**Capacity - 1 liter** 

**Purpose - Storage of purified gases for subsequent use.** 

#### **Indicating Manometers (0)**

Purpose - **To indicate pressure of gases stored in reservoirs.** 

#### **Mercury Cutoffs (P)**

**Purpose - To prevent gases stored in reservoirs from dissolving in stopcock grease, and thereby contaminating system or causing leaks to occur. This system also allows storage of gases at below atmospheric pressures since there is no problem of air contamination due to a leaky stopcock.** 

#### **Gas Bulb Burettes (Q)**

**Purpose - To measure volume of gas admitted to adsorption bulb.** 

**Capacity - 1, 3, 5, 7, 10' ml. (Small burette).** 

**Temperature Control - Water jacketed to provide for close temperature control. Constant temperature can be achieved by circulating water in a closed system. Temperature Measurement - By means of thermometers accurate to C.1 degree Centigrade.** 

**5, 15, 25, 50, 130** *ml. (Large* **burette).** 

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**Purpose - To hold sample of material undergoing test. Capacity- Various sizes, each of which can be connected to system by means of a tapered ground glass connector.** 

## **Manometer for Adsorption Bulb (9)**

**Purpose - To measure pressure of gas in adsorption bulb.** 

**Capacity- To measure 1,000 mm of pressure.** 

# **Vapor Pressure Bulb (T)**

**Purpose - To determine vapor pressure of gas being used as an adsorbate.** 

## **Compression Bulb for Vapor Pressure (U)**

**Purpose - To store gas for use in determining vapor pressure.** 

#### **Manometer for Vapor Pressure (V)**

**Purpose - To measure pressure of gas in vapor pressure bulb.** 

**Capacity- To measure 1,000 mm of pressure.** 

#### **Meter Scale (W)**

**Manufacturer - Scientific Glass Apparatus Company** 

**Type - Engraved glass mirror.** 

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#### General Operation

**Contract Construction** 

The equipment was designed to be used in the following manner.

A known weight of material (adsorbent) in a closed system is to be subjected to a vacuum sufficient to remove all adsorbed gas molecules.

A known volume of adsorbate gas is to be admitted to this closed system, and adsorbed under isothermal conditions.

The equipment was designed to permit the measurement of pressure, volume, and temperature relationships necessary to facilitate the calculations of the precise amount of adsorbate gas adsorbed on the sample.

A detailed description of the operational procedure and calculations are to be found on **pages** 41-56 of this report.

# **EQUIPMENT NOMENCLATURE**

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}}$ 

ν,



**W** - Meter Scales (2)

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 $\mathcal{X}_1$ 

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#### OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

- **A** Start-Up Procedure The following five steps are to be followed in starting up equipment, preparatory to making a run.
	- 1 Open all stopcocks to the vacuum line with the exception of stopcock "A" which leads to the sample bulb. hake particular note of opening stopcock "0" located on the by-pass line around the McLeod gauge. (This permits equalization of pressure on the mercury in the McLeod gauge and, reservoirs, and prevents the mercury from bubbling.)
	- $2$  Start mechanical vacuum pump. As soon as pump returns to normal, close stopcock "C".
	- $3$  As soon as reading is obtainable on McLeod gauge, start mercury diffusion pump--making sure to fill cold trap on diffusion pump with liquid nitrogen, and setting rheostat at a reading of between 55 and 60.  $4$  - Open stopcock  $^{\text{H}}A^{\text{H}}$  slowly, and allow sample to evacuate.  $5$  - Continue evacuating until a reading of  $1x10^{-4}$  to

 $1x10^{-6}$  mm is obtained on the McLeod gauge. Initially this may take several hours due to the presence of water vapor on the walls of the apparatus. This initial pump down time can be reduced by heating the glass walls (not the stopcocks) with a widespread flame from a Bunsen burner.

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- B Testing for Leaks The following procedure should be adopted to determine presence of possible leaks in the system.
	- 1 When optimum vacuum is reached, shut off all stopcocks to the vacuum line.

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- $2$  Allow apparatus to remain this way for about fifteen minutes.
- 3 **Open** stopcocks to various parts of **the system, one**  at a time, checking the vacuum in each instance by **means of the** McLeod gauge. The presence of a leak  $\forall$  111 be indicated by a lower vacuum reading on the McLeod gauge.
- <sup>4</sup> If leaks are present, they are **usually found in**  the joints and stopcocks, and can **usually be**  located by means of a high **frequency vacuum tester (Scientific** *Glass* Co. No. P9470), **a white spark discharge indicating presence of gas ions and therefore a leak.**
- Leaks in joints and tube walls can be corrected by neating and refusing that particular area. Leaks in stopcocks can be corrected by releasing vacuum and removing stopcock, which is then **ground, regreased and replaced.**

5 - Procedure must be repeated when any leaks are detected. C - **Filling Gas Reservoirs - In filling the gas reservoirs** "U" the following steps should be observed.

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- 1 Flush gas through purification system  $(J,K,L,M)$ allowing it to escape through butlet on  $"K",$
- $2$  Admit gas to its respective reservoir until the gauge on tank reads between 2 and 3 psig.
- <sup>3</sup> After one gas is stored and before another one can be admitted, the gas maniford section of system must be evacuated to prevent mixing of the gases. For example, in adding Nitrogen and Helium, Nitrogen is added first in the prescribed manner and manifold section is evacuated. Helium is added last since it will be the first gas used in determining the free space of the system. Therefore, a second evacuation is not necessary.
- D Measuring Free Space The free space or volume "Vo" of the adsorption system must be determined. This is the volume of the space between the stopcock  $A$ <sup>#</sup> just above the sample tube, the zero point of the gas burette, and the zero point of the manometer. This particular value is determined only once for any given system; since, unless breakage occurs, will remain constant.
	- $1 -$  With system evacuated, stopcock "A" closed, mercury at zero point in manometer and mercury at zero point in gas burette; gas (Helium or Nitrogen) is admitted through stopcock  $H^*$  to give a pressure reading on manometer of between 7O0 and 800 mm.

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 $2$  - Stopcock "B" to gas maniford is then closed and the pressure determined with meroury at zero point in gas burette.

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- 3 Mercury is lowered to the first reference point in burette and pressure again measured.
- 4 This procedure is repeated at each reference point until gas burette has been emptied of mercury.
- 5 This method provides a series of pressure readings at known burette volumes (Vtb); and assuming run was made at constant temperature, and with a constant amount of gas the following relationship holds true:

 $PV = constant = K$ 

 $V = V_0 + Vt$ 

 $PVO + PVtb = K$ 

 $PVtb = K - PV0$ 

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}(\mathrm{PVtb})}{\mathrm{dP}} = -\mathrm{Vo}
$$

6 - A plot of PVtb versus P for each point should produce a straight line whose slope is the negative value of the free volume (Vo).

It follows that  $\frac{A - B}{P} = -\text{Vo}$  or  $\frac{B - A}{P} = \text{Vo}$  in ml. B



**E - Determination of Bulb Factors (fv) - It is convenient at this**  point to construct a table of bulb factors  $(r_v)$  which are an **aid in simplifying later calculations of volumes of nitrogen at standard conditions. The actual table appears on page 57 of this report, but the manner in which it is determined**  will be discussed here.

$$
r_v = (Vtb + Vo)(273.2)
$$
 (760)

**where:** 

**Vtb is the measured volume of each bulb or combination of bulbs in the gas burette.** 

**and:** 

**Vo is the free space in the adsorption system as determined in section D and which remains constant.** 

**Therefore:** 

**In determining the actual volume of gas (Vt) at standard conditions from the measured volumes Vtb and Vo and measured pressure (P) and temperature (T, OK); the following relationship may be used.** 

**Vt**  $(N_2)$ , stp =  $\underline{f_{\Psi} \times P}$ 

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- **F Measurement of Free Volume in Sample Tube (Va) Since this determination is made at liquid nitrogen temperature, a gas must be used which will not adsorb on the sample to be tested. Such a gas is helium.** 
	- **1 A large sample of helium is introduced into the burette system with stopcock "A" remaining closed. (Normally use the total volume of both burettes.)**
	- **2 The pressure is measured (P) and the volume of**  helium is corrected to standard conditions (Vt<sub>He</sub>).
	- <sup>3</sup> **Place liquid nitrogen bath around sample tube, and allow it to come to temperature--about five minutes is usually sufficient. Make sure level of liquid nitrogen remains constant during determination.**
	- <sup>4</sup> **Open stopcock "A" and allow helium to enter sample tube. Take pressure reading (P1) and record burette temperature (t, °C).**
	- <sup>5</sup> **Close stopcock WA". Open stopcock "B" and "X" to evacuate system. Then slowly open stopcock "A" and evacuate helium from sample tube, and remove nitrogen bath.**
	- <sup>6</sup> **This determination must be made for each run since the size of sample tube and sample contained will vary.**

#### **G - Making a Run**

**1 - After removing Helium** *from* **system, and reestablishing vacuum at original level; close stopcocks A,X,Z. (see drawing).** 

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- **2 Open stopcock from appropriate gas reservoir and allow a predetermined volume of gas to enter gas burette.**
- <sup>3</sup> **Close stopcock B, adjust manometer S to zero point,**  and record pressure  $(P_X)$ , and burette temperature.
- <sup>4</sup> **Immerse adsorption bulb R** *in* **liquid nitrogen bath.**
- <sup>5</sup> **Open stopcock A, adjust zero point on manometer; readjust to zero point when equilibrium conditions are obtained.**
- <sup>6</sup> **Read and record pressure (PR) and burette temperature.**
- <sup>7</sup> **Close stopcock A.**
- **Open stopcock B and admit a second charge of adsorbate gas at a greater pressure (Px) than that of the previous charge.**
- <sup>9</sup> **Close stopcock B; adjust manometer to zero point; read and record pressure (PX) and burette temperature for second point.**
- **10 Open stopcock A and repeat step number 4.**
- **11 For additional points on adsorption isotherm, repeat steps 1 through** 6.

**When sufficient data has been obtained so that values of Pr/Po can be calculated for the range of 0.05 to 0.4, the run**  is normally complete for the straight line, and point "B" methods.

**If a complete adsorption isotherm is required, continue**  taking points until  $P_T/P_0$  reaches a value of 1.0.

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At the completion of each run, P<sub>o</sub> must be determined. **This can be accomplished by admitting a large volume of adsorbate gas through stopcock Z to compression bulb U, and allowing gas to condense in vapor pressure bulb T which is submerged in a liquid nitrogen bath. Saturation pressure is the highest equilibrium pressure obtainable.** 

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- **H Shutdown One can start shutting down equipment while vapor pressure determination is being made. This is accomplished in the following manner:** 
	- **1 Shut off mercury diffusion pump, but allow cooling water to continue passing through it.**
	- **2 Open stopcocks X,B,A slowly in that order.**
	- 3  **Remove liquid nitrogen bath from adsorption bulb.**
	- 4 **After vapor pressure determination has been made, open stopcock Z. and evacuate vapor pressure section of system.**
	- **<sup>5</sup> Lower mercury in manometers into their respective reservoirs.**
	- **<sup>6</sup> Lower mercury in gas burettes into their respective reservoirs, and shut off stopcocks on both sides of burette.**
	- **7 Open stopcock C and other stopcocks on mercury reservoirs to vacuum line. (This equalizes pressure in system.)**

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 $8$  - Shut off mechanical vacuum pump as soon as diffusion pump is cool to the touch.

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9 - Shut off water and all electrical connections.

**Nomenclature** 

- V<sub>m</sub>-------- Volume of adsorbate gas as measured in gas burettes **and capillary tube. (ml)**
- V<sub>T</sub>(stp) --- Volume of adsorbate gas corrected to standard **conditions. (ml)**
- V<sub>A</sub>(stp) --- Volume of adsorbate gas in dead space of adsorption **bulb, corrected to standard conditions. (ml)**
- $V_R$ (stp) --- Volume of adsorbate gas which is not adsorbed at **each point during run, corrected to standard conditions. (ml)**
- **Vads(stp)- Cumulative volume of adsorbate gas adsorbed at any point during** *run,* **corrected to standard conditions (ml)**
- Px -------- Pressure of each addition of adsorbate gas as measured **on manometer. (mm)**
- P<sub>R</sub>-------- Residual pressure of adsorbate gas (not adsorbed), **as measurcd on manometer,** *after* **equilibrium conditions are obtained. (mm)**
- P--------- Actual pressure of adsorbate gas to system. (mm)
- P<sub>o</sub>-------- Vapor pressure of adsorbate gas. (mm)
- V<sub>T</sub>(He) ---- Initial volume of helium gas admitted to system for **determining dead space in adsorption bulb, as measured in gas burettes and capillary tube. (ml)**
- V<sub>R</sub>(He) ---- Residual volume of helium gas in system after ad**mitting gas to adsorption bulb. (ml)**

**P<sub>T</sub>**(He)---- Pressure exerted by initial volume of helium gas, as

**measured on manometer. (mm)** 

P<sub>A</sub>-------- Barometric pressure. (mm)

P<sub>g</sub>-------- Standard pressure. (mm)

T--------- Standard temperature. (<sup>O</sup>K)

**T1 Gas burette temperature. (°K)** 

V<sub>m</sub>------- Volume of adsorbate gas which forms a monolayer over **total surface of sample. (00/gm)** 

8--------- Slope of curve.

I--------- Y intercept of curve.

<sup>W</sup>**Weight of sample. (gm)** 

**PR(He)---- Pressure exerted by residual volume of helium. (mm)** 

V<sub>o</sub>-------- Actual volume of capillary tube. (ml)

VA(He) ---- Volume of helium gas in dead (free) space of

**adsorption bulb. (m1.)** 

f<sub>v</sub>-------- Gas burette bulb factor.

 $f_{a}$ ------- Adsorption bulb factor.

V<sub>TB</sub>------- Actual volume of gas burettes bulbs. (ml)

**(Calibrated with mercury by Otto Greiner Company before installing.)** 



Determination of Free Space in Capillary Tube (V<sub>0</sub>)

From a plot of PV<sub>TB</sub> versus P, the following values for B and **A (see operating instructions for discussion) were obtained.** 

 $B = 3500$   $A = 250$ 

**Therefore:** 

 $V_o = B - A = 3500 - 250 = 8.125$  ml **Iwo** 

**This value remains constant as long as no changes are made in the capillary section of system.** 

Determination of Free Space in Adsorption Bulb 
$$
(V_A)
$$
, and Determination of **Adsorption Bulb Factor**  $(f_A)$ . Run 13

\n $V_T(He) = (V_{TB} + V_0) \frac{(T)}{(T_1)} \frac{(P_1He)}{(P_2)} \frac{(PA)}{(P_3)} = \frac{m1}{(8+p)}$ 

\n $V_T(He) = (233.125) \frac{(273.2)(366.0)(772.5)}{(295.6)(760.0)(760.0)} = 105.7 \, \text{m1 (stp)}$ 

\n $V_R(He) = (V_{TB} + V_0) \frac{(T)}{(T_1)} \frac{(P_1He)(P_A)}{(P_5)} = \frac{m1}{(8+p)}$ 

\n $V_R(He) = (233.125) \frac{(273.2)(122.0)(772.5)}{(295.6)(760.0)(760.0)} = 35.2 \, \text{m1 (stp)}$ 

\n $V_A(He) = V_T(He) - V_R(He) = m1 (stp)$ 

\n $V_A(He) = 105.7 - 35.2 = 70.5 \, \text{m1 (stp)}$ 

\n $f_A = \frac{V_A(He)}{P_R(He)} = \frac{70.5}{122.0} = 0.577$ 

\nIn this instance, a second determination was made, and another

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value for  $f_a$  was obtained.

$$
f_{\rm a} = 0.595
$$

An average value for f<sub>a</sub> of 0.586 was used in subsequent **calculations in Run 13.** 

**Each time the adsorption bulb or sample cortained therein is changed, this determination must be made.** 

**Determination of Gas Burette Bulb Factor (f<sub>v</sub>)** 

$$
r_{\mathbf{v}} = (v_{\text{TB}} + v_{o})\frac{(\mathbf{r})}{(\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{S}})}
$$
  

$$
r_{\mathbf{v}} = (9.0 + 8.125)\frac{(273.2)}{(760.0)} = 6.15
$$

**These factors remain constant for any given combination of gas burette bulbs and capillary tubing as long as no changes (due to breakage) occur.** 

**Pressure Determination of Each Addition of Nitrogen Gas (Px)** 

**Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.** 

**Px = 432.0 mm (Read directly from manometer.) Residual Pressure of Nitrogen Gas (P<sub>R</sub>)** 

**Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.** 

 $P_{\rm R}$  = 9.0 mm (Read directly from manometer.) **Actual Pressure of Each Addition of Nitrogen Gas (P)** 

**Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.** 

 $P = P_Y - P_R$ 

 $P = 432.0 - 9.0 = 423.0$  mm.

Note: On the first point taken on any run  $P = P_X$  since there is no residual pressure P<sub>R</sub>. Each new addition **of gas to the system however, exerts only that**  pressure P equal to the total pressure P<sub>Y</sub> less the residual pressure  $P_R$  from the preceding addition.

Volume of Nitrogen Gas Corrected to Standard Conditions V<sub>m</sub>(stp) **Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.** 

$$
V_T(stp) = \frac{f_T(P)}{T_1} = m1
$$
  
\n $V_T(stp) = \frac{6.15(423.0)}{298.8} = 8.85 m1$ 

**Residual Volume of Nitrogen Gas Corrected to Standard Conditions**   $V_{\rm R}$ (stp)

**Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.** 

$$
V_R(\text{stp}) = \frac{f_V(P_R)}{T_1} = mI
$$
  
 $V_R(\text{stp}) = \frac{6.15(9.0)}{298.8} = 0.186 mI$ 

Volume of Nitrogen Gas in Dead Space of Adsorption Bulb Corrected to Standard Conditions,  $V_A$ (stp)

Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.

$$
V_A(\text{stp}) = f_A(P_R) = m1
$$
  
\n $V_A(\text{stp}) = 0.586(9.0) = 5.27 m1$ 

Volume of Nitrogen Gas adsorbed, Cumulative, Corrected to Standard Conditions, V<sub>ads</sub>(stp) .<br>In 1960 and a strip with the send as some office with the Windows Highest Community of the send of the continu

Example: Based on second point established during Run 13.

 $V_{\text{ads}}(\text{stp}) = V_T - (V_R + V_A) = mI$  $V_{\text{ads}}(\text{stp})$  = 16.02 - (0.186 + 5.27) = 10.57 ml

Vapor Pressure of Nitrogen Gas, Corrected to Standard Conditions, P<sub>o</sub>(stp)

$$
P_{o}(stp) = P_{o}(P_{A}) = mm
$$
  
\n
$$
P_{o}(stp) = \frac{804.0(772.5)}{760.0} = 819.0 mm
$$

Calculation of Surface Area from the Straight Line Plot

From the plot of 
$$
\frac{P_R}{V_{ads}(P_o - P_R)}
$$
 x 10<sup>3</sup> versus  $P_R/P_0$   
\nI = Y intercept = 0.1 x 10<sup>-3</sup>  
\nS = slope =  $\frac{(16.0 - 0.1) \times 10^{-3}}{0.1}$  = 79.5 x 10<sup>-3</sup>  
\n $V_m = \frac{1}{S + I} = \frac{1}{(79.5 + 0.1)10^{-3} \times W}$  = 0.58 m1/g  
\nArea = 4.38 V<sub>m</sub> = 4.38(0.58) = 2.56 m<sup>2</sup>/g

Calculation of Surface Area by the "Point B" Method

From the plot of V<sub>ads</sub> ml/g versus  $P_R/P_o$ , Point B was established, and the tangent to the curve at this point intercepts the Y axis. This point of interception is  $V_m$ . For Run 13:  $V_m = 0.70$ Area =  $4.38v_m$  =  $4.38(0.70)$  = 3.06 m<sup>2</sup>/g

# TABLE OF BULB FACTORS  $(r_v)$

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**Note: This is only a partial listing, which includes those values most commonly used in the experiments.** 

DATA SHEET

 $\tau_{\rm{max}}=2.4$ 





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DATE 1/19/57 RUN NO. 13

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**END OF RUN** 

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Gas Reservoirs



Mechanical Vacuum Pump



Mercury Diffusion<br>Pump

 $\frac{1}{2}$ 



McLeod Gauge



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## CALIBRATION OF FREE SPACE He gas  $20^{\circ}$ C



**Date** 11/17/56 **Run No. 9** 

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**Date 12/1/56 Run No. 11 Run No. 11** 

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**Date 12/8/56** 

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**Run No. 12** 

**Barometric pressure (mm) Room temp. (0C)**  765  $23.2$ <br> $370$ **Vapor pressure (P<sub>O</sub>, mm)**<br>Sample designation **Filter Gell C-46585**<br>13.7180 **Weight of sample (g)** 13.7180<br> **Vacuum** in system (mm) 1.92 x 10<sup>-4</sup> **Vacuum in system (mm)** 1.92  $\frac{1.92}{233.125}$ **Volume of He (Vt, ml) 233.125 He Pressure (P, mm) 440.5 Residual He pressure (P<sub>1</sub>, mm) 230.0 Burette temp.** He ( $\circ$ C) 23.2



Date 2/2/57 Run No. 14





Date 2/16/57 Run No. 15

**Barometric pressure (mm)** 756.7 - 753.7<br>Room temp. (90) 26.8 **Room temp.** (00) 26.8<br> **Vanor pressure (P., mm)** 605.0 **Vapor pressure (P<sub>0</sub>, mm)**<br>Sample designation **Weight of sample (g)** 21.70<br> **Vacuum in system (mm)** 2.88 x 10-5 **Vacuum in system (mm)** 2.88 x<br> **Volume of He (V<sub>+</sub>, ml) 259.125 Volume of He (** $V_{\text{t}}$ **, ml)** 259.<br> **Initial He pressure (P, mm)** 253 **Initial He pressure (P, mm)** 253<br> **Final He pressure (P<sub>1</sub>, mm)** 92 Final He pressure (P<sub>1</sub>, mm) 92 **Burette temp.** (He) (<sup>3</sup>0) 21.25

**Sample designation 300 ?erlite Filter Aid.** 



 $\sim$ 

Date 2/16/57

Run No. **16** 

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End of Run

Date 2/22/57 **Run No. 17** 

Barometric pressure (mm) Room temp.  $(°0)$ . Vapor pressure (P, mm) Sample designation Weight of sample  $(g)$ . Vacuum in system (mm) Volume of Helium  $(V_t, ml)$ Initial Helium pressure (P, mm) Residual Helium pressure (Pj, mm) Burette temperature (00)





7nd of Run

Date 2/22/57

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Run No. 18





End of Run

## Date  $2/24/57$  Run  $\kappa_0$ , 19

 $\label{eq:2.1} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\int_{0}^{\infty}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^{2\alpha} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\int_{0}^{\infty}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\frac{1}{$ 

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End of Run



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**RUN 13** 

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**RUN 17** 



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