# The ZLC Method

Stefano Brandani Centre for CO<sub>2</sub> Technology Department of Chemical Engineering University College London

s.brandani@ucl.ac.uk

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### The ZLC apparatus



### The ZLC column





#### The (Tracer) ZLC apparatus





#### ZLC column inside GC oven



### What can be measured? Kinetics

- The *transport diffusivity* at zero loading Eic M. and Ruthven D.M., *Zeolites*, **1988**, *8*, 40–45.
- Liquid phase counter diffusion Ruthven D.M. and Stapleton P., Chem. Engng Sci., **1993**, 48, 89-98.
- The tracer diffusivity Tracer ZLC
   Brandani S., Hufton J.R. and Ruthven D.M., Zeolites, 1995, 15, 624–631.
- The *transport diffusivity in mixtures* Brandani S., Jama M. and Ruthven D.M., *Ind. & Eng. Chem. Res.*, **2000**, *39*, 821-828.

# **Tracer ZLC**

- ZLC measurements are carried out using a tracer, such as a C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> for C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>.
- Total concentration constant
- ALWAYS LINEAR + ISOTHERMAL
- DIRECTLY COMPARABLE TO MICROSCOPIC MEASUREMENTS
- Requires a mass spectrometer



### **Experimental Signals - Silicalite**

n-decane T=125 C, P=0.006 Torr



# Partial Loading Experiment: surface barriers



## **Determination of D**<sub>0</sub>

#### n-decane, 125C, P=0.006 Torr



## **Check D<sub>0</sub> with Partial-Loading Experiment**

#### n-decane, 125 C, P=0.006 Torr



#### **Adsorbed Phase Concentration**

#### n-decane, 125C, P=0.006 Torr



#### **Results for silicalite – comparison with IRG**





#### **Comparison with IRG values – 5A**

Variation of Diffusivity with Chain Length (473K)





### What can be measured? Equilibrium

• Henry law constants

Brandani F., Brandani S., Coe C.G. and Ruthven D.M., **2002**, *Fundamentals of Adsorption 7*, 21–28.

- Single component isotherms
  Brandani F., Ruthven D.M. and Coe C., *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.*, 2003, 42, 1451-1461.
- Multicomponent isotherms

Brandani F. and Ruthven D.M., *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.*, **2003**, *42*, 1462-1469.

• Zero loading heat of adsorption

#### Mass flux from chemical potential driving force

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{A}} = -\frac{\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{0}}}{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{T}}\mathbf{q}\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{A}}}{\partial z}$$

$$\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{A}} = -\mathbf{D}\frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial \mathbf{z}}$$

$$J_{A} = -D_{0}q \frac{\partial \ln P_{A}}{\partial z}$$

At constant T, P



The transport diffusivity is a strong function of concentration

#### **Darken Correction**

Typically the corrected diffusivity is assumed to be constant, since the thermodynamic correction has a strong composition dependence.



Need VERY ACCURATE equilibrium data to evaluate the derivative.



#### **Darken Correction cont.**



### **Equilibrium ZLC CO<sub>2</sub> - Silicalite.**



#### **Experimental ZLC curves.**



#### Adsorption isotherms.



#### Adsorption isotherms.

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### nC10 on NaCaA

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

Abb. 2. Experimentelle (Symbole) und berechnete (-----) Adsorptionsisothermen von n-Dekan am Zeolith NaCaA