# PURIFICATION OF WASTEWATER BY CLOUD POINT EXTRACTION PROCESS: EFFECT OF MOLECULAR STRUCTURE OF SURFACTANT

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for the Degree of Master of Science

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#### **ABSTRACT**

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Cloud point extraction (CPE) is considered as a new technique that takes advantage of the nonionic surfactant clouding phenomenon to remove organic compounds from wastewaters. Molecular structure of nonionic surfactant, such as the number of carbon atoms in the alkyl chain, and the ethylene oxide (EO) strongly affected the cloud point, which is the main factor that determines CPE efficiency. The aim of this work was to study the effect of molecular structure of surfactant on the extraction efficiency. The EO number of the alcohol ethoxylate (AE) was varied in the range of 5-12 at a given number of carbon atoms ranging from 12-14. Aqueous solutions of solutes (phenol and p-cresol) and nonionic surfactant were homogeneously prepared and kept at various operating temperatures between 60 and 80 °C in an isothermal water bath. The results showed that the CPE efficiency increased with increasing number of carbon atoms in the alkyl chain. A change in EO number had an insignificant effect on CPE efficiency. Increasing an operating temperature resulted in increasing organic solute extraction performance but decreasing coacervate volume. The salinity effect was also investigated by the addition of sodium chloride into the aqueous solutions. It was found that the CPE efficiency increased with increasing sodium chloride concentration.

## บทคัดย่อ

ศศิโสม ซึงห์: การบำบัคน้ำเสียด้วยวิธีการสกัดแบบงุ่น: ผลกระทบของโครงสร้าง โมเลกุลของสารลดแรงตึงผิว (Purification of Wastewater by Cloud Point Extraction Process: Effect of Molecular Structure of Surfactant) อาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา. ส.คร. สมชาย โอ สุวรรณ, ศ.คร. จอห์น เอฟ สเกมาฮอร์น (Prof. John F. Scamehorn) และ รศ.คร.ธีรศักดิ์ ฤกษ์ สมบูรณ์ 84 หน้า ISBN 974-9937-01-5

การสกัดแบบขุ่นเป็นเทคนิคใหม่ที่ใช้กำจัดสารอินทรีย์ที่ละลายอยู่ในน้ำเสียโดยนำข้อดี ของปรากฏการณ์ข่นของสารลดแรงตึงผิวแบบไม่มีประจุมาใช้ ลักษณะโครงสร้างโมเลกูลของสาร ลคแรงตึงผิวแบบไม่มีประจุ เช่น จำนวนคาร์บอนในสายโซ่อัลคิล และ จำนวนกลุ่มเอทธิลีนออก ไซค์ มีผลอย่างมากต่อการเปลี่ยนแปลงของจุคขุ่น ซึ่งเป็นตัวบ่งชี้ถึงประสิทธิภาพของการสกัด งานวิจัยนี้ได้ศึกษาผลกระทบของโครงสร้างโมเลกุลของสารลดแรงตึงผืวที่มีต่อ แบบข่น ประสิทธิภาพของการสกัดแบบขุ่น จำนวนเอทธิลีนออกไซด์ของสารลดแรงตึงผิวแบบไม่มีประจุ ชนิดแอลกอฮอล์เอทอกซิเลทที่ใช้มีค่าในช่วง 5 ถึง 12 กลุ่ม โดยมีจำนวนคาร์บอนตั้งแต่ 12 ถึง 14 อะตอม ได้ทำการทคลองโคยเตรียมสารละลายของฟืนอลและพาราครีซอลที่ใช้เป็นตัวถูกละลาย ในสารลคแรงตึงผิวแบบไม่มีประจุโดยคงอุณหภูมิการสกัดในอ่างน้ำที่ปรับอุณหภูมิคงที่ระหว่าง 60 และ 80 องศาเซลเซียส จากการทคลองพบว่าประสิทธิภาพของการสกัคแบบขุ่นเพิ่มขึ้นเมื่อเพิ่ม การเปลี่ยนแปลงจำนวนกลุ่มเอทธิลีนออกไซค์แทบไม่มี จำนวนคาร์บอนในสายโซ่อัลคิล ผลกระทบต่อประสิทธิภาพการสกัด รวมทั้งได้ศึกษาผลกระทบของเกลือ โดยการเติมโซเดียมคลอ พบว่าประสิทธิภาพการสกัดเพิ่มขึ้นเมื่อเพิ่มความเข้มข้นของโซเคียมคลอ ไรด์ลงในสารละลาย ไรค์

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