Particulate Systems

HPVA

High-Pressure Volumetric Analyzer

A MICROMERITICS BRAND

High-Pressure Volumetric Analysis

HPVA Benefits

- Dual free-space measurement for accurate isotherm data
- Free space can be measured or entered
- Correction for non-ideality of analysis gas using NIST REFPROP compressibility factors
- Reports provided as interactive spreadsheets
- Isotherm and weight percentage plots created automatically
- Tables of raw data used for report calculations
- Real-time charts for Pressure vs. Time, Temperature vs. Time, and Volume Adsorbed vs. Pressure
- Reports include all sample information
- Gas mixtures with up to three components can be used
- Kinetic data provided for rate of adsorption calculations
- Langmuir isotherms and calculations of gas adsorption
- High-precision, solid-state design pressure transducers provide a reading accuracy of ±0.04% full scale with a stability of ±0.1%
- System can attain a maximum pressure of 200 bar
- Hydrogen gas sensor automatically shuts down the system should a hydrogen leak occur

High-Pressure Analysis for Specialty Applications

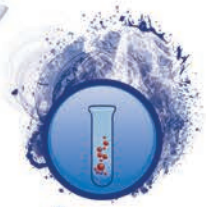
The HPVA Series of gas adsorption analyzers from Particulate Systems uses the static volumetric method to obtain high-pressure adsorption and desorption isotherms utilizing gases such as hydrogen, methane, and carbon dioxide.

The volumetric technique consists of introducing (dosing) a known amount of gas (adsorptive) into the chamber containing the sample to be analyzed. When the sample reaches equilibrium with the adsorbate gas, the final equilibrium pressure is recorded. These data are then used to calculate the quantity of gas adsorbed by the sample.

This process is repeated at given pressure intervals until the maximum preselected pressure is reached. Then the pressure can be decreased to provide a desorption isotherm. Each of the resulting equilibrium points (volume adsorbed and equilibrium pressure) is plotted to provide an isotherm.

Excellent reproducibility and accuracy are obtained by using separate transducers for monitoring the manifold and the sample chamber.

Typical HPVA Applications



Carbon Dioxide Sequestration

Evaluating the quantity of carbon dioxide that can be adsorbed by carbons and other materials is important in the ongoing study of carbon dioxide sequestration. The high pressures obtained with the HPVA can simulate the underground conditions of sites where CO_2 is to be injected. Configuring the HPVA with a chiller/heater bath allows the user to evaluate the CO_2 uptake at a range of stable temperatures, providing data that can be used to calculate heats of adsorption. These isotherms are typically analyzed up to approximately 50 bar at near ambient temperatures due to CO_2 condensation at higher pressures.

Coal-bed Methane

Porous coal samples from underground beds can be analyzed with the HPVA to determine their methane capacity at high pressures. This allows the user to find the methane adsorption and desorption properties of the underground coal beds, which is useful in determining approximate amounts of hydrocarbons available in coal-bed reserves. Kinetic data from the experiments can also show the rate of methane adsorption and desorption on these porous carbon samples at specific pressures and temperatures.

Shale Gas

High-pressure methane can be dosed onto shale samples to generate adsorption and desorption isotherms. This provides the methane capacity of the shale at specific pressures and temperatures. The adsorption isotherm can be used to calculate the Langumir surface area and volume of the shale. The Langmuir surface area is the surface area of the shale assuming that the adsorbate gas forms a single layer of molecules. The Langmuir volume is the uptake of methane at infinite pressure – the maximum possible volume of methane that can be adsorbed to the surface of the sample.

Hydrogen Storage

Determining the hydrogen storage capacity of materials such as porous carbons and metal organic frameworks (MOFs) is pivotal in the modern demand for clean energy sources. These materials are ideally suited for storage because they allow you to safely adsorb and desorb the hydrogen. Stored adsorbed hydrogen in MOFs has a higher energy density by volume than gaseous hydrogen and does not require the cryogenic temperatures needed to maintain hydrogen in a liquid state. The HPVA software provides a weight percentage plot that illustrates the amount of gas adsorbed at a given pressure as a function of the sample mass – the standard method for reviewing a sample's hydrogen storage capacity.

HPVA Features

- Wide Operating Pressure Range: High Vacuum to 100 or 200 bar
- Broad Temperature Capability: From cryogenic to 500 °C
- Excellent control of sample temperature by means of a recirculating temperature bath, cryogen Dewar, or furnace
- Manifold temperature controlled with heater for stability and accuracy
- Fully automated analysis using interactive software
- Excellent data reproducibility
- Handles typical adsorbates such as nitrogen, hydrogen, methane, argon, oxygen, and carbon dioxide
- Comprehensive Data Analysis Package using Microsoft® Excel® macros for data processing and graphing
- Software includes NIST REFPROP

HPVA System

Degas Port

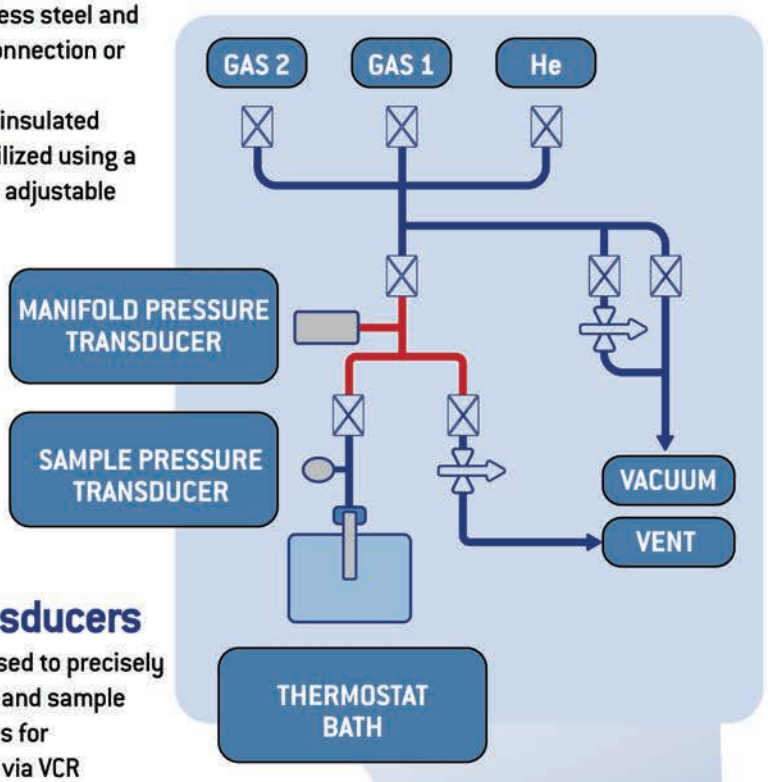
The HPVA includes a separate port for drying or activating the samples before analysis. The Operation of this port is controlled manually using a valve located on the front of the instrument. VCO connectors are used to attach the sample holders to the degas port. The furnace is capable of temperatures up to 500 °C, controlled by a PID routine which includes ramp and soak capabilities.

Manifold

All the valves in the manifold are pneumatically operated, high-pressure valves with Kel-F® seats. Valve tubing is constructed with heavy wall, 316L stainless steel and is attached via a VCR connection or welded.

The temperature of the insulated manifold region is stabilized using a heater controlled by an adjustable PID controller.

SYSTEM SCHEMATIC



Flow-Control Valves

Two flow-control valves are used to regulate flow of the gas in the manifold to the vent and vacuum.

Vacuum System

Consists of a mechanical pump and external vacuum gauge. User can provide their own pump or purchase the high-vacuum turbo pump package.

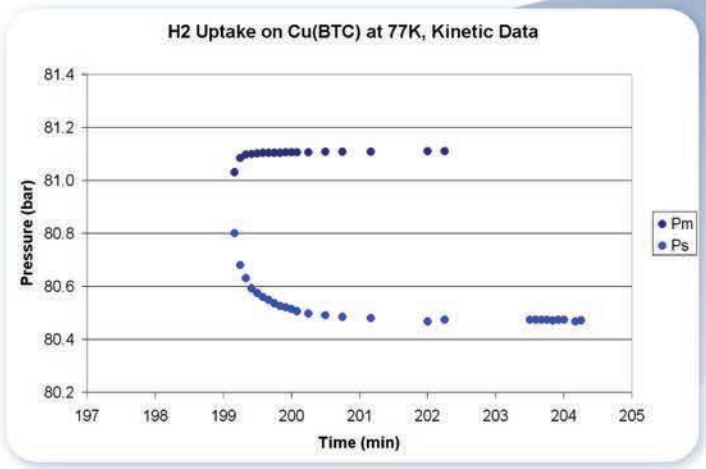
Pressure Transducers

Two transducers are used to precisely measure the manifold and sample pressures. Connections for transducers are made via VCR connectors.

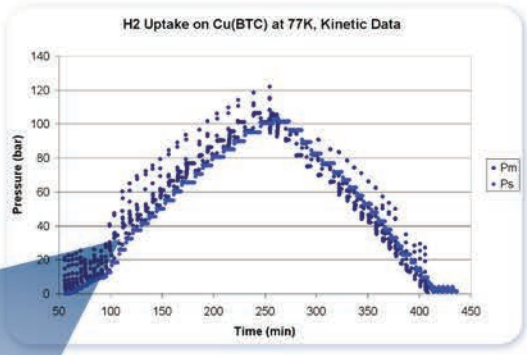
Three Methods of Sample Temperature Control

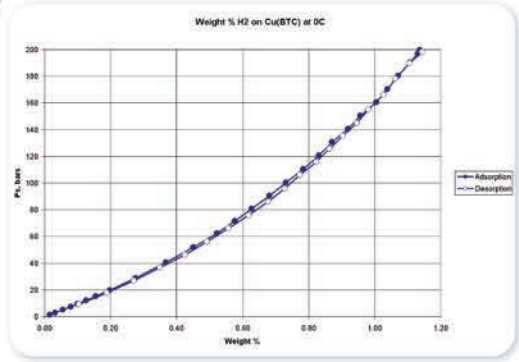
- Refrigerated/heated recirculation vessel (customer provides temperature control bath)
- Four-liter, stainless-steel Dewar for liquid cryogen
- Furnace allows for experiments ranging up to 500 °C

HPVA Reporting

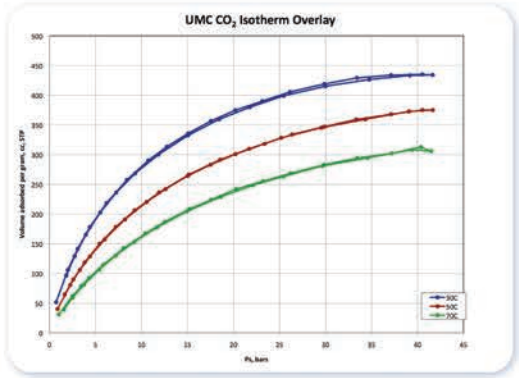


Kinetic data for hydrogen uptake on Cu(BTC) at 77 K. The decrease in pressure indicates the adsorption of the gas.





Weight percentage of hydrogen adsorbed onto Cu(BTC) at ice bath temperature.

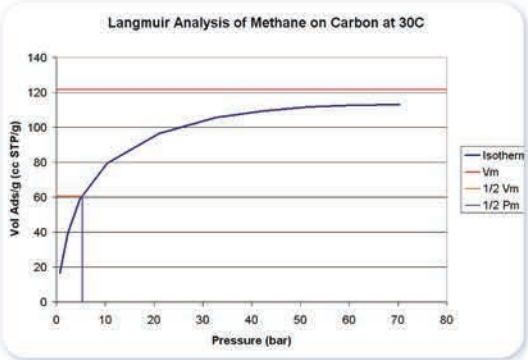


Carbon dioxide adsorption/desorption on ultra microporous carbon at 30 ℃, 50 ℃, and 70 ℃.

Data Reduction

The HPVA software uses a National Instruments data acquisition interface to communicate with the analyzer. The data acquired during analyses are written to files that are read by a macro written in Microsoft Excel.

The macro uses the temperature and pressure data to obtain the corresponding compressibility factors from NIST REFPROP software to correct for the non-ideality of the high-pressure gases. Data reduction using the Excel macro provides reports as interactive spreadsheets which list the temperature and pressure data used for volume adsorbed calculations as well as excess isotherm, weight percentage, Langmuir theory, and kinetic data plots.



Langmuir isotherm of methane adsorption on porous carbon at 30 ℃. Vm indicates the Langmuir volume, the theoretical adsorption at infinite pressure.

Particulate Systems

Specifications

Physical	Height:	88.9 cm (35 in.)
	Width:	50.8 cm (20 in.)
	Depth:	50.8 cm (20 in.)
	Weight:	27.2 kg (60 lbs)
Electrical	Voltage:	100 - 240 VAC
	Frequency:	50 to 60 Hz
Environment	Temperature:	10 to 45°C (50 to 113°F), operating; -10 to 55°C (14 to 131°F), non-operating
Computer	Processor:	Pentium IV 2.8 GHz processor
	Memory:	512 MB RAM
	Hard Disk Space:	80 gigabytes
	Monitor:	SVGA
	Media Drive:	Writable CD or DVD
	Interface:	Available PCI Slot
	Software:	Windows® XP Professional Windows 7 Microsoft Excel® - 2002 or higher

Particulate Systems
4356 Communications Drive
Norcross, GA 30093

Telephones:
U.S. Sales 770.662.3633
International Sales 770.662.3660
Fax 770.662.3696

Micromeritics China
Suite 1505-1509
600 Minsheng Road
Shanghai, 200135
P.R. CHINA
Telephone +86.21.51085884
Fax +86.21.50129907

Micromeritics European Technical Center
Avantis Science Park
Rutherford 108
D-52072 Aachen
GERMANY
Telephone +49.0.241.189.446.0
Fax +49.0.241.189.446.11

Micromeritics GmbH
Avantis Science Park
Rutherford 108
D-52072 Aachen
GERMANY
Telephone +49.0.241.189.446.0
Fax +49.0.241.189.446.11

Micromeritics Ltd.
Unit 2, Chestnut House
178-182 High Street North
Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 1AT
ENGLAND
Telephone +44.0.1582.475248
Fax +44.0.1582.475252

Micromeritics N.V./S.A.
Eugene Plaskylaan 140B
1030 Brussels
BELGIUM
Telephone +32.0.2.743.39.74
Fax +32.0.2.743.39.79

Micromeritics SRL
Via W. Tobagi n. 26/7
20068 Peschiera Borromeo
Milano
ITALY
Telephone +39.0.2.553.02833
Fax +39.0.2.553.02843

Micromeritics France S.A.
Parc Alata
Rue Antoine Laurent Lavoisier
F-60550 Verneuil en Halatte
FRANCE
Telephone +33.0.3.44.64.60.80
Fax +33.0.3.44.64.60.89

Micromeritics Japan, G.K.
5F Tokatsu Techno Plaza
501, 5-4-6 Kashiwanoha
Kashiwa, Chiba 277-0882
JAPAN
Telephone +81.0.4.7128.5051
Fax +81.0.4.7128.5054

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