# Jurnal Teknologi

# **Full Paper**

# KINETIC MODEL FOR IDENTIFYING THE RATE CONTROLLING STEP OF THE ALUMINUM LEACHING FROM PEAT CLAY

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# Graphical abstract



## Abstract

The aluminum (AI) leaching kinetics from peat clay was investigated using various acid concentrations 1 M to 6 M, particle sizes +70-120 mesh to +200-325 mesh and temperatures 30 °C to 90 °C. They all have significant effects on aluminum leaching process. The AI leaching recovery was best found to be 91.3 % at 4 M hydrochloric acid (HCI), using a particle size of +200-325 mesh with solid/liquid of 0.02 g ml<sup>-1</sup>. Leaching kinetic study was applied to the two rate equations proposed that is acid diffusion via product layer and surface chemical reaction using the shrinking core (SC) model to analyze the leaching data. The product layer diffusion is controlling AI leaching process for one-stage model, while for two-stage model, it was controlled by surface chemical reaction. The activation energy in the two rate controlling step was 82.79 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> and 27.08 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively.

Keywords: Aluminum, kinetics, leaching, one-stage, peat clay, two-stage

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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Peatlands are the environmental transition between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems [1] that indicated by the existence of naturally accumulated peat sheets. Peat clay is clay soil which located at a depth of about 1.5 to 3.0 meters from the peat soil. In Indonesia, especially in South Kalimantan, peatlands are very spacious and they have not been utilized optimally. Indirectly, their existence shows that there are a lot of peat clay. The main mineral of peat clays generally has a major chemical composition in the form of aluminum oxide ( $Al_2O_3$ ) in which it has potential as a coagulant, adsorbents and catalysts for use in wastewater treatment [2]. Aluminium (AI) is the most abundant metal and the third largest element contained in the Earth's crust, which contained in the mineral, rock, and

clay, like a peat clay containing Al salts. According to chemical analyses data, silica oxide (SiO<sub>2</sub>) and  $Al_2O_3$  are major elements.

The methods for leaching of AI can generally be encapsulated into alkaline and acid methods. Leaching process of Al requires prior activation process because of its inactive and stable structure. A very common method to activate the clay by thermal treatment. This process is expected to increase the clay reactivity that influences the dehydrhydration transformation of kaolinite to amorphous meta kaolinite (Al<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>7</sub>), which is more reactive and easy to extracted with acids or alkaline [3]. The alkaline method is not appropriate for AI extraction, however, the acid method has the benefit for short process, low energy consumption, less residue, and easy and complete separation of Al. Various mineral acid for leaching Al have been investigated and shown in Table 1.

# Article history

Received 19 April 2017 Received in revised form 2 September 2017 Accepted 10 January 2017

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Leaching	Condition	Material	Percent	Pof
agent			recovery	Kei
$H_2SO_4$	700 °C and 120 min, 40% wt H_2SO4, 65	Clay from Az-Zabirah,	88.5	Al-Zahrani and Abdul-Majid
	mesh, 0.88 g/ml 120 min, boiling	Saudi Arabia		[6]
	condition			
HCI	560–750 °C and 30–45 min, 28% wt HCl,	Kaolin from Duwaikhla	93	Al-Ajeel and Al-Sindy [7]
	15, 45 min, 100 °C ± 5	Mine, Iraq		
HCI	600 °C and 120 min, 3 M HCl,-100 mesh,	Clay from Riyadh,	62.9	Al-Zahrani and Abdul-Majid
	0.1 g/ml, 120 min, boiling condition	Saudi Arabia		[8]
NaOH	6.25 M NaOH, 0.067 g/ml, 800–900 rpm,	Iron ore from Joda	80	Sakar [9]
	180 min, 95 °C	mine, India		
HNO3	650 °C and 80 min, 6 M HNO3, 0.045 mm,	Clay from Ukpor mine,	81.7	Ajemba and Onukwuli [10]
	0.02 g/ml, 540 rpm, 20–150 min, 100 °C	Nigeria		
HCI	750 °C and 240 min, 4.8 M HCl, 0.045	Clay from Ukpor mine,	90	Ajemba and Onukwuli [16]
	mm, 0.02 g/ml, 540 rpm, 200 min, 90 °C	Nigeria		
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	750 °C and 30 min, 3 M H_2SO_4, -200	Lampang clays from	95.1	Numluk and Chaisena [11]
	mesh, 0.8 g/ml, 120 min, 100 °C	Thailand		
HCI	650 °C and 160 min, 8 N HCl, -200 mesh,	Kaolinitic clay from	77.3	Ibrahim, et al. [12]
	0.1 g/ml, 720 min, 90 °C	Sinai at El-Tih, Egypt		
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	700 °C and 120 min, 1.5 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> , 3–5.4	Kaolin from the	99.6	Lima, et al. [13]
	μm, 180 min, 95 °C	Capim region, Brazil		
NH4CI/NH4NO3	70 °C and 480 min, 0.2 M NH4 , 1:1	Rare earth ore from	89.1	He, et al. [14]
	NHCI/NH₄NO₃, 360 min, 25 °C	Dingnan, Jiangxi		
		Province, China		

Table 1 Literature reported studies on AI leaching

Among these acids, hydrochloric acid has several advantages, especially for the treatment of pure kaolinitic clay. At ambient temperature, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> cannot react with acid. However, only aluminium hydroxide (Al(OH)<sub>3</sub>) shaped amorphous solid can be leached under acidic conditions. Hence, the major reaction of aluminum oxide with acid is the following:

 $AI(OH)_3 (s) + 3HCI (aq) \rightarrow AICI_3 (aq) + 3H_2O$ (1)

The leaching of AI with hydrochloric acid is represented as a non-catalytic leaching reactions with aluminum grains assumed to be dispersed evenly throughout the particle such that the entire solid may be considered to act as a homogeneous reactant. The rate of conversion is dependent upon the current state of the leaching and the concentration of the acid in the fluid surrounding the particle [4]. This modelling is usually done using the shrinking core (SC) model. SC model assumes that the solute is located inside the core solid particle that shrinks as the extracted solute, and assumes first-order reaction and unchanged structure of the particles [5].

Each particle is considered to be a sphere of initially unreacted material. Diffusion and chemical reaction processes take place on the surface of the sphere and then progresses inwards, such that the core of unreacted material shrinks and leaves behind a layer of inert, permeable, solid product at the irreversible desorption condition. Many studies using SC model have been done on leaching kinetics from clay. Most of them focus on thermal treatment, solid-liquid ratio, acid concentration, particle size, temperature, and whole reaction time, which is influencing leaching kinetics behavior (Table 2). In fact, hydrochloric acid leaching is affected by a variety of parameters (acid contration, particle size, and reaction temperature as a function of whole leaching time). However, The leaching kinetics of aluminum from peat clay at difference of leaching time (one-stage and two-stage) has never existed. In the present study, The effects of four different acid concentration, three different particle sizes, and four different of reaction temperature as a function of different leaching time were evaluated. Leaching kinetics of Al were examined according to noncatalytic fluid-solid reaction using SC model for determining the rate controlling steps at one-stage and two-stage.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

#### 2.1 Materials

Peat clay was collected from Peat Village, Subdistrict of Peat, District of Banjar, South Kalimantan, Indonesia with longitude coordinates of location between 3°23'55.3"S and 114°42'14,6"E and in the depths about 3.0 meters from the surface of the earth. Peat clay was washed and dried under direct sunlight 48 hours and then it was crushed and screened with size fraction of +70-325 mesh (0.044-0,210 mm) based on a standard sieve of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) and calcined at 700 °C for 2 hours for thermal treatment. HCl was gained from Sigma-Aldrich with a purity of 37%. Required concentrations of HCl were arranged along with dilution of deionized water.

Time, t/min	Temperature, T/°C	Rate-controlling step	Activation energy, E <sub>a</sub> /kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	Leaching kinetic model	Ref	
300	45–96	Chemical reaction	79	$\frac{t}{\tau} = 1 - (1 - x)^{1/3}; \tau = \frac{\rho_B R_0}{b k_s C_A}$	Altiokka and Ho [15]	oşgün
20-150	100	Product-layer diffusion	30.5	$k_{s} = exp(0.33 - 9300 + 1) m^{2} s^{3}$ $1 + 2(1 - X) - 3(1 - X)^{2/3}$ $= 0.96 \times 10^{2} C \frac{0.52}{[HNO_{3}]} (d_{p})^{-1.73} (s / L)^{-0.66}$ $(.10.68 - (-30.521/RT))$	Ajemba Onukwuli [10]	and
200	90	Product-layer diffusion	39	$(w) = \frac{(x)}{1 + 2(1 - X) - 3(1 - X)^{2/3}}$ = 1.40 × 10 <sup>3</sup> C <sup>0.37</sup> <sub>[HCI]</sub> (d <sub>p</sub> ) -0.89 (s / 1) -0.63 (w) = 0.42 exp(-4677 / 1)t	Ajemba Onukwuli [16]	and
180	95	Chemical reaction	97.7	-	Lima <i>, et al</i> . [13]	
600	25	Product-layer diffusion	1.5	$1 + \frac{2}{3}a - (1 - a)^{2/3} = 0.0062C_0^{1.48}t$	He, et al. [14]	

Table 2 Kinetic models for leaching process of Al

## 2.2 Leaching Process

The leaching process had been done in an atmospheric Iwaki Pyrex reactor which it had two necks for a thermometer and for the inlet and/or outlet of the sample at regular intervals. The mixing reaction process is using a magnetic stirrer at 300 r min-<sup>1</sup> and heated indirectly via a water bath. Al leaching from the calcined peat clay was reacted in the reactor using several of HCI concentration, particle sizes, and reaction temperatures as the function of time. 5 g of calcined peat clay was added to 250 ml agitated HCl solution (solid/liquid ratio is 0.02 g·ml-1) at a particular temperature. The effect of acid concentration (1, 2, 4, and 6 M), particle size (+70-120, +120-200, and +200-325 mesh), and reaction temperature (30, 50, 70, and 90 °C) on Al leaching was studied and performed at 60 min. At selected time interval, all samples were collected using a syringe and filtered for analysis determine aluminum content in solution using inductively coupled plasmacluster optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES) (9060-D Teledyne Leeman Labs. USA). Each analysis was repeated three times and deputized with average values. The Al leaching ratio (x) can be calculated as:  $x = X/X_0$ (2)

where  $X_0$  denotes total AI obtained through acid leaching process and X is the amount of AI obtained at different conditions (mg/g).

## 2.3 Shrinking Core (SC) Model

The SC model for unchanging structure and size of spherical particles [17] describes kinetic characteristics of reaction mechanisms throughout

the noncatalytic heterogeneous solid-liquid reaction. There is three mechanisms process system in the surface reaction of the solid-liquid system which comprises of the following: film diffusion, product-layer diffusion, and surface chemical reaction [18,19]. In this study, however, only two reaction mechanisms would be used at previously established SC model [20–23]. The kinetics equation for leaching proses controlled by a surface chemical reaction is as follows:

$$\frac{t}{r_c} = 1 - (1 - x)^{1/3}$$
(3)

If the product-layer diffusion is controlling the leaching process, the kinetics equation as follows:

$$\frac{t}{\tau_{\rm C}} = 1 - 3\left(1 - x\right)^{2/3} + 2\left(1 - x\right) \tag{4}$$

With the complete leaching time by surface chemical reaction control  $\tau_c = \rho_B R / b M_W k_C C_A$  and the complete leaching time by-product layer diffusion control  $\tau_i = \rho_B R^2 / 6b M_W D_e C_A$ , where x denotes the aluminum leaching recovery fraction; t is the reaction time;  $\rho_B$  is the solid density; R is the radius of initial particle; b is the stoichiometric coefficient;  $M_W$  is the molecular weight (g/mol);  $k_c$  is the factor of mass transfer;  $C_A$  is hydrochloric acid concentration; and  $D_e$  is the coefficient of product layer diffusion.

Equation (3) and (4) can be applied to one-stage leaching. If the model does not follow the experimental data; then a two-stage leaching can be used. However, for two-stage, the boundary condition is different with the condition of one-stage. In this case, the modified equations can be formulated as follows [24]:

$$\frac{t - t_1}{\tau_c} = 1 - \left(\frac{1 - x}{1 - x_1}\right)^{1/3}$$
(5)

$$\frac{t - t_1}{\tau_C} = 1 - 3\left(\frac{l - x}{l - x_1}\right)^{2/3} + 2\left(l - (l - x_1)l^{/3}\right)(x - x_1)$$
(6)

with complete leaching time by surface chemical reaction control  $\tau_{C} = \rho_{B}R(l-x_{I})/bM_{W}k_{C}C_{A}$  and complete leaching time by-product layer diffusion control at a long period of time  $\tau_{i} = \rho_{B}R^{2}(l-x_{I})^{2/3}/6bM_{W}D_{e}C_{A}$ , where  $t_{1}$  and  $x_{1}$  values are not zero and its value from experimental data should be regarded as an initial condition.

# 3.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Characterization of Peat Clay Particle

Characterization of peat clay was analyzed with XRD (Philips X-pert powder model, Netherlands) and identified by comparing 'd' values using powder diffraction data base file-2 (PDF-2) 1996. The possible minerals with their 'd' values present the major mineral phases i.e. kaolinite (Al<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>(OH)<sub>4</sub>), quartz (SiO<sub>2</sub>), hematite Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and corundum (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) (Figure 1).



Figure 1 XRD pattern of peat clay from Peat Village, Subdistrict of Peat, District of Banjar, South Kalimantan, Indonesia

FTIR studies help in the identification of various forms of the minerals present in the peat clay. The coupled vibrations are appreciable due to the availability of various constituents. Identification of variations mineral form of each functional group which brought distinctive properties of the compounds in the peat clay using FTIR (Shimadzu, Japan). Observed bands (in the range, 4000–500 cm<sup>-1</sup>) have been tentatively assigned. The results are shown in Figure 2 and Table 3.



**Figure 2** FTIR spectrum of peat clay from Peat Village, Subdistrict of Peat, District of Banjar, South Kalimantan, Indonesia

**Table 3** Infrared spectroscopy (IR) band of peat clay fromPeat Village, Subdistrict of Peat, District of Banjar, SouthKalimantan, Indonesia

Infrared	Transmittance	Assignment
(cm <sup>-1</sup> )	(/0)	
3697.29	36.350	Al–O–H str (kaolinite, illite)
3616.28	35.428	Al–O–H (kaolinite, illite, calcite)
3444.63	35.979	H–O–H str (kaolinite, illite)
1623.95	42.233	H–O–H str (illite, calcite)
1099.35	26.901	Si–O str (kaolinite, quartz)
1033.77	19.707	Si–O–Si, Ši–O str. (kaolinitė, illitė)
1008.7	21.507	Si–O str (kaolinite, quartz)
914.2	34.436	Al–O–H str (kaolinite, illite, hematite)
779.19	40.861	Si–O–Al str (kaolinite, illite)
694.33	40.595	Si–O str., Si–O–Al str (quartz, kaolinite)
534.25	28.083	Si–O str., Si–O–Al str (kaolinite)
468.67	25.018	Si–O str., Si–O–Fe str. (quartz, kaolinite)
422.38	31.474	Si–O str (quartz)

Flake structure of peat clay was analyzed by SEM-EDX (SEM EVO MA 10, Germany) that showed the presence of the same dominant elements, namely AI, Si, Fe (color difference) with a composition of 31.21%wt, 50.18%wt, 18.61%wt respectively (Figure 3).



**Figure 3** Morphology SEM of peat clay from Peat Village, Subdistrict of Peat, District of Banjar, South Kalimantan, Indonesia

XRF characterization was performed to know the chemical compositions of the minerals that are present in the peat clay. The chemical composition of paet clay based on XRF (PANalytical miniPAL4, Netherlands) analysis is listed in Table 4. The aluminum oxide, silica oxide, and iron oxide are present in major quantities while other minerals are present in trace amounts.

**Table 4** Chemical composition of peat clay from PeatVillage, Subdistrict of Peat, District of Banjar, SouthKalimantan, Indonesia

Compound	Mass composition %
SiO <sub>2</sub>	38.80
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11.00
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	27.00
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.16
MnO	0.10
CaO	0.83
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.57
$V_2O_5$	0.11
$Cr_2O_3$	0.20
ZnO	0.06
NiO	0.93
CuO	0.16
MoO3	6.50
Re <sub>2</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	0.10
LOI	10.48

#### 3.2 Effect of Acid Concentration

Figure 4 indicates that AI leaching ratio increases with increasing acid concentration from 1 M to 6 M. When at 6 M of HCl, however, it decreased slightly in all leaching time. This result could possibly be caused by the settling of metal-chloride [25]. The viewpoint of leaching kinetics that increasing AI leaching ratio along with increasing concentrations of HCl, but, the decrease in the solubility of aluminum chloride (AICl<sub>3</sub>). In accordance with Cui, *et al.* [25] when AICl<sub>3</sub> is saturated dissolution and precipitation of aluminum oxide (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) have been occurred a dynamic stability, wherein Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> dissolution percentage was reached a stable condition. This might describe the aluminum leaching ratio behavior in 6 M of HCl solution. The HCl

concentration of 4 M was therefore chosen for subsequent experiments.



Figure 4 Effect of acid concentration on Al leaching

## 3.3 Effect of Particle Size

Figure 5 shows that AI leaching ratio increased as particle size decrease from +70-120 mesh to +200-325 mesh. The smaller the particle size, the faster the dissolution [26]. The smaller particle size can make a large contact surface area thereby increasing AI leaching ratio. The particle size of +200-325 mesh was used for subsequent experiments on effect of temperature.



Figure 5 Effect of three different particle sizes on Al leaching

#### 3.4 Effect of Temperature

Figure 6 shows that AI leaching ratio increased with time and temperature. About 91.30% of AI was achieved at HCl of 4 M, 60 min, the particle size of +200-325 mesh with solid/liquid of 0.02 g·ml<sup>-1</sup>, and temperature of 90 °C. AI leaching was more sensitive to boil temperature above 90 °C, which showed that the diffusion process could be a step not limiting because the layer can be gradually formed on the surface of the particles and not hinder acid from attaining the reactive area at 90 °C and above. This statement contradicts with Cui, *et al.* [25] that Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> dissolution from coal mining waste was less sensitive to a temperature between 90 °C and 106 °C, and diffusion process is possible as the rate controlling. However, other researchers describe that the leaching rate will be increased following the increase in temperature [8, 10, 21, 26].



**Figure 6** Effect of four different temperatures (at 30-90 °C, 4 M HCl, and particle size of +200-325 mesh)

## 3.5 Leaching Kinetics

## 3.5.1 Effect of Acid Concentration

Based on equation (3) and (4) for one-stage and equation (5) and (6) for two-stage the rate constants

determined at dissimilar concentrations are given in Table 5. At the one-stage (t < 20 min) and the twostage of leaching (t > 20 min), the correlation coefficient value ( $R^2$ ) of the rate constant of product layer diffusion ( $K_i$ ) is higher than the value of the rate constant of surface chemical reaction ( $K_c$ ). This results indicate that Al leaching ratio is dominated by a product-layer diffusion.

Based on  $K_i$ , the logarithm of AI leaching rate constant is illustrated versus the logarithm of acid concentration. The slope in Figure 7 shows the order reaction. It indicate that the AI leaching is both pseudo first order reaction at one-stage and twostage. The reaction order describes the correlation between acid concentration and aluminum leaching rate. The alteration of HCI concentration was influenced by a higher order reaction [28]. According to Figure 7, Compared to the Al leaching rate for onestage, the AI leaching rate for two-stage is more influence by HCl concentration. The slope shows that the reaction order is 0.7497 and 0.5318 with a correlation coefficient of 0.9406 and 0.9678 for onestage and two-stage, respectively. Therefore, the reaction order associated with H<sup>+</sup> ion is near 1 for acid concentrations  $\leq$  4 M. A similar experiment has been reported by Baba, et al. [29] for an order of reaction determination of zinc from spent zinc carbon batteries using HCI.

**Table 5** Values of  $K_i$ ,  $K_c$  and correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) for AI leaching ratio at different acid concentrations (1–6 M)

Acid		One-stage	of leaching	9	Two-stage of leaching			
concentration (M)	Rate constants (min <sup>-1</sup> )		Correlation coefficient (R <sup>2</sup> )		Rate constants (min-1)		Correlation coefficient (R <sup>2</sup> )	
	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc
1	0.0090	0.0179	0.9676	0.8808	0.0084	0.0024	0.9862	0.9843
2	0.0160	0.0244	0.9501	0.8595	0.0140	0.0033	0.9752	0.9747
4	0.0325	0.0366	0.9805	0.8834	0.0196	0.0049	0.8582	0.8518
6	0.0309	0.0355	0.9838	0.8865	0.0216	0.0051	0.9521	0.9500



Figure 7 Plots of In  $K_i$  versus In  $c_0$  giving the slope as reaction order which  $c_0$  is HCl concentration

## 3.5.2 Effect of Particle Size

The rate constants calculated at three different particle sizes are given in Table 6. The  $R^2$  value of  $K_i$  is higher than the value of  $K_c$ , implying that AI leaching is controlled by product layer diffusion at one-stage. Similar with the previous section, at two-stage, the  $R^2$  value of  $K_i$  is lower than the value of  $K_c$ . It means that AI leaching is dominated by surface chemical reaction.

#### 3.5.3 Effect of Temperature

The rate constants calculated at four different temperatures are presented in Table 7. The  $R^2$  value of  $K_i$  is higher than the  $R^2$  value of  $K_c$  at one-stage. It indicates that the product layer diffusion is controlling leaching process. At two-stage leaching, the

chemical reaction through the surface of the core becomes the rate determining of Al leaching.

In reality, the  $R^2$  value of  $K_i$  and an  $R^2$  value of  $K_c$  in one-stage and two-stage leaching is different, proposing the probability of two dissimilar reactions take place in the time of leaching continues. This is possibly due to the presence of the other compounds besides Al compound in the peat clay particles. To ensure this hypothesis, the value of activation energy will be calculated by Arrhenius equation. Consequently, in this study, the K value of Arrhenius formula represents the  $K_i$  and  $K_c$  values for both stage. The activation energy will be calculated by Arrhenius equation as follows:

$$K = A e^{-E_{\alpha}/RT}$$
(7)

In a linear shape is

$$\ln K = \ln A - \frac{E_{O}}{RT}$$
(8)

where K is the rate constant, A is the pre-exponential factor,  $E_{\alpha}$  (kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>) is the activation energy, R is the universal gas constant,  $8.314 \times 10^{-3}$  kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>·K<sup>-1</sup>, and T is the temperature (K).

**Table 6** Values of  $K_i$ ,  $K_c$  and correlation coefficient ( $R^2$ ) for AI leaching ratio at four different particle size (+70-120; +120-200; and +200-325 mesh)

Particle size		One-stage	of leaching	g		Two-stage of leaching			
(mesh)	Rate constants (min-1)		Correlation coefficient		Rate constants (min-1)		Correlation coefficient		
	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	
+70-120	0.0239	0.0311	0.9297	0.8840	0.0218	0.0051	0.8862	0.9279	
+120-200	0.0265	0.0327	0.9330	0.8699	0.0209	0.0052	0.8971	0.9333	
+200-325	0.0343	0.0284	0.9680	0.9171	0.0196	0.0049	0.8518	0.8582	

Table 7 Values of K<sub>i</sub>, K<sub>c</sub> and correlation coefficient (R<sup>2</sup>) for AI leaching ratio at different temperature (30, 50, 70, and 90 °C)

Temperature		One-stage of leaching				Two-stage of leaching			
(°C)	Rate constants (min-1)		Correlation coefficient ( <i>R</i> <sup>2</sup> )		Rate constants (min-1)		Correlation coefficient (R <sup>2</sup> )		
	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	Ki	Kc	
30	0.0002	0.0023	0.8006	0.7005	0.0006	0.0007	0.6940	0.7541	
50	0.0007	0.0046	0.9096	0.7663	0.0064	0.0031	0.8701	0.9034	
70	0.0112	0.0205	0.9744	0.9554	0.0119	0.0030	0.9604	0.9607	
90	0.0333	0.0372	0.9702	0.8817	0.0188	0.0049	0.7361	0.8554	

As indicated in Figure 8, the activation energy for both stage was calculated to be 82.79 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup> and 27.08 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>. In the present study, the results are not aligned with those given by Brantley, *et al.* [28]; Cui, *et al.* [25]. The activation energy compared with that described by Aarabi-Karasgani, *et al.* [24] a lower activation energy (24~30.12 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) means that the leaching kinetics was influenced by a surface reaction, whereas a higher activation energy (39~90 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) shows it is controlled by product layer diffusion [10,30]. Based on this situation, the Al leaching at one-stage is controlled by product layer diffusion while at two-stage, the Al leaching is controlled by surface chemical reaction.



Figure 8 The Arrhenius plot of  $\ln K$  against T<sup>-1</sup> for AI leaching at one-stage and two-stage

# 4.0 CONCLUSION

The aluminum leaching kinetics from peat clay was performed with four different hydrochloric acid concentration, three different particle size, and four different temperature. The conclusions can be made as follows: Aluminum leaching process was effected by acid concentrations 1 M to 6 M, particle sizes +70-120 mesh to +200-325 mesh, and temperatures 30 °C to 90 °C. From the experiment, about 91.30% of Al was achieved within 60 min at 4 M HCl and 90 °C, using a particle size of +200-325 mesh with solid/liquid of 0.02 g ml<sup>-1</sup> and stirring speed of 300 rpm. The activation energy at one-stage and two-stage was calculated to be 82.79 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup> and 27.08 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The product layer diffusion is controlling the Al leaching at one-stage. However, at two-stage, the Al leaching is controlled by the surface chemical reaction.

## Acknowledgement

This experimental study was financially supported by the Directorate General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education and Culture Republic of Indonesia (No. 23428/A4.2/2014) through one of the authors (Agus Mirwan) has been obtained a scholarship for the doctor program from Chemical Engineering Study Program, Lambung Mangkurat University.

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