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# Promising Adsorption of Sulfidic Acid Gases Using Wet Banana Plant Adsorbent (Musa spp.)

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Bananas have the highest production rate among fruits in Indonesia, which leads to the generation of a significant amount of banana fruit solid waste. In this study, we assessed the potential use of banana waste to remove hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) gas . In particular, the purpose of this study was to analyze the efficiency of banana waste as an adsorbent for H<sub>2</sub>S gas. We tested the stems, leaves, and peels of banana plants as H<sub>2</sub>S gas adsorbents with varying contact times. To obtain a microscopic view of the adsorbents before and after the experiment, we conducted measurements using scanning electron microscopy with dispersive X-ray spectroscopy. The banana leaves, stems, and peels were found to have H<sub>2</sub>S gas absorption efficiency values of 76.52%, 51.83%, and 6.44%, respectively. Based on the

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## Articles

## Development of Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring of Electricity Load Classification with Low-Frequency Sampling Based on Support Vector Machine

Edi Leksono, Auditio Mändhany, Irsyad Nashirul Haq, Justin Pradipta, Putu Handre Kertha Utama, Reza Fauzi Iskandar, Rezky Mähesa Nanda

109-119

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DOI: <u>https://doi.org/10.5614/j.eng.technol.sci.2023.55.2.1</u>

### Modal Transformation based Fault Location in Radial Distribution Network

Thant Sin Aung, Wunna Swe 120-130



DOI : <u>https://doi.org/10.5614/j.eng.technol.sci.2023.55.2.2</u>

## A Review on Zeolite Application for Aromatic Production from Non-Petroleum Carbon-Based Resources

I. G. B. N. Mäkertihartha, Noerma Juli Azhari, Grandprix T.M. Kadja 131-142



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## Effect of Temperature, Holding Time, and Addition of Sn on Density on Metal Injection Molding Sintering Process

Wardatul Jannah, Danang Yudistiro, Möchamad Asrofi, Mahros Darsin, Ahmad Rendi Maulana 143-152



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DOI : <u>https://doi.org/10.5614/j.eng.technol.sci.2023.55.2.4</u>

# 3D Modeling of Leachate Distribution Around Zone E of Batu Layang Landfill, Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia Using the Geoelectrical Method

Stefänus Barlian Soeryamassoeka, Fitriana Meilasari, Hendri Sutrisno, Erni Yuniarti, Zulfian Zulfian 153-166



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## Assessment of Small-Scale Microplastics Abundance and Characterization in Urban River: A Case Study in Metro River, Indonesia

Riyanto Haribowo, Prasetyo Rubiantoro, Arriel Fadhilah, Zefanya Alovy Petra Denindya, Yunike Ayu Kristanti, Wahyu Rismiati, Muhammad Aulia Arsal

167-176

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Emerging Technologies in the Development of Metallic and Bimetallic Nanoparticles in the Last Decade: A Scientometric Analysis

Maria Mercedes Cely-Bautista, Grey Castellar-Ortega, Javier Jaramillo-Colpas

177-188



# Most Cited (Last 3 Years)

## Surfactant-Polymer Coreflood Simulation and Uncertainty Analysis Derived from Laboratory Study

Farizal Hakiki, Dara Ayuda Māħarsi, Taufān Marhaendrajana

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### Brine Effluents: Characteristics, Environmental Impacts, and Their Handling

Danu Ariono, Mübiar Purwasasmita, I Gede Wenten

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## Non Dispersive Chemical Deacidification of Crude Palm Oil in Hollow Fiber Membrane Contactor

Mübiar Purwasasmita, Eryk Bone Pratama Nabu, Khoiruddin, I Gede Wenten

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# The Influence of PEG400 and Acetone on Polysulfone Membrane Morphology and Fouling Behaviour

P.T.P. Aryanti, Shelli R. Joscarita, Anita K. Wardani, S. Subagjo, Danu Ariono, I Gede Wenten

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Muhammad Priyatna, Muhammad Rokhis Khomarudin, Sastra Kusuma Wijaya, Fajar Yulianto, Gatot Nugroho, Pingkan Mayestika Afgatiani, Anisa Rarasati, Muhammad Arfin Hussein

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### Physical and Chemical Properties of Indonesian Coffee Beans for Different Postharvest Processing Methods

Elin Yusibani, Peter Lloyd Woodfield, Adi Rahwanto, Muhammad Syukri Surbakti, Rajibussalim Rajibussalim, Rahmi Rahmi

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#### Development of Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring of Electricity Loads Classification with Low-Frequency Sampling Based on Support Vector Machine

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### A Review on the Zeolite Application for Aromatic Production from Non-Petroleum Carbon-Based Resource

I. G. B. N. Mäkertihartha, Noerma J. Azhari, & Grandprix T. M. Kadja

### Effect of Temperature, Holding Time, and Addition of Sn on Density on Metal Injection Molding Sintering Process

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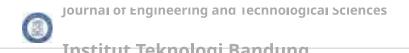


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## Assessing Log Reduction Values of Conventional Water Treatment Plants with Microbially Highly Polluted Raw Water Sources

Arief Sudradjat, Made Sandhyana Angga, Kevin Barlian, Anindrya Nastiti 220101



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### Vitamin E Extraction from Magnesium Salts of Palm Fatty Acid Distillates

Dianika Lestari, Khalisa Putri Aqilah, Salsafia Putri, Ardiyari Harimawan, Diky Mudhakir, Muhamad Insanu 220102

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### Integrated Magnetotelluric (MT), Gravity and Seismic Study of Lower Kutai Basin Configuration

Selvi Misnia Irawati, Hidayat Hidayat, Edy Wijanarko, Hendra Grandis 220103

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## Land Subsidence Susceptibility Projection for Palembang Slum Area by Complex MCDM-AHP Technique

Siti Noratigah Mohamad Deros, Norashidah Md Din, Syamimi Mohd Norzeli, Rohayu Che Omar, Fathoni Usman, Sumie Amariena Hamim 220104 Institut Teknologi Randung

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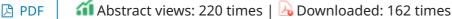
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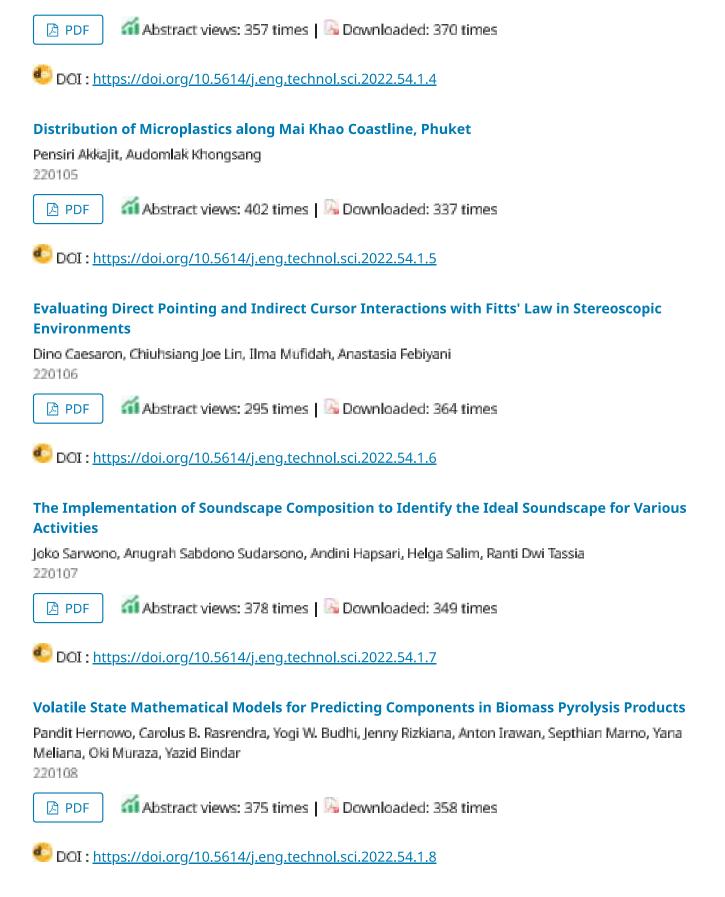
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Alamta Singarimbun, Umar Said, Dini Andriani, R. B. Astro, Bakrun Bakrun, I G. P. F. Soerya Djaja, Eleonora Agustine, Pepen Supendi, Wahyu Srigutomo 220111

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J. Eng. Technol. Sci., Vol. 54, No. 1, 2022, 220110

#### Promising Adsorption of Sulfidic Acid Gases Using Wet Banana Plant Adsorbent (Musa spp.)

#### Haryono S. Huboyo\*, Badrus Zaman, Bimastyaji S Ramadan & Anastasia D Prinaningrum

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#### **Highlights:**

- Banana plant waste can be used as gas adsorbent.
- The leaves of the banana plant are the most effective in removing pollutants.
- Removal of gaseous pollutants occurs in less than 15 minutes.

Abstract. Bananas have the highest production rate among fruits in Indonesia, which leads to the generation of a significant amount of banana fruit solid waste. In this study, we assessed the potential use of banana waste to remove hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) gas. In particular, the purpose of this study was to analyze the efficiency of banana waste as an adsorbent for H<sub>2</sub>S gas. We tested the stems, leaves, and peels of banana plants as H<sub>2</sub>S gas adsorbents with varying contact times. To obtain a microscopic view of the adsorbents before and after the experiment, we conducted measurements using scanning electron microscopy with dispersive X-ray spectroscopy. The banana leaves, stems, and peels were found to have H<sub>2</sub>S gas absorption efficiency values of 76.52%, 51.83%, and 6.44%, respectively. Based on the experiment, the leaves of the banana plant appear to be the best adsorbents, with an adsorption capacity of 1.67 mg/g. The results also revealed that there was a change in the fiber and stomata appearance of the banana leaves have the potential to be used as effective H<sub>2</sub>S adsorbents.

**Keywords**: *adsorption; air pollution; gas; odor; plant.* 

#### 1 Introduction

In 2018, bananas were ranked as the largest contributor to fruit production in Indonesia, with a total production figure of 7.26 million tons, which is above the production figures for mangoes, oranges, pineapples, and durian [1]. Banana production has since increased by 1.42% (101,698 tons) and still ranks first among the fruit production contributors. East Java is the largest banana-producing province, with a total production of 2.06 million tons annually,

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J. Eng. Technol. Sci., Vol. 54, No. 1, 2022, 220104

#### Land Subsidence Susceptibility Projection for Palembang Slum Area by Complex MCDM-AHP Technique

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#### **Highlights:**

- Groundwater withdrawal is the major cause of land subsidence and usually occurs in rapidly developed and highly populated areas.
- Land slope, sediment type, lithology, wetlands, river networks, and land gradient have a direct influence on subsidence susceptibility.
- The high correlation between predicted land subsidence susceptibility and slum areas shows that the occurrence of land subsidence has a high relationship with residential activities and land surface properties.

Abstract. Land subsidence is a geomorphological event that affects Earth's structure and physiognomy. This phenomenon occurs when the groundwater volume changes and results in the movement and sinking of sediment. Several studies have been conducted to identify major causes or factors that may lead to land subsidence. It was found that land subsidence intensity is influenced by several factors, i.e. terrain slope and aspect, land use, soil moisture content, and distance to a river. Population density contributes to continuous changes in land use. Deep investigations of factors that contribute to land subsidence such as population density are important. This study investigated the relationship between land subsidence and population density contributing to continuous land-use changes. The study area was a highly populated slum area along the Musi River in Palembang, Indonesia. Factors that have high contributions to land subsidence were considered in developing a land subsidence susceptibility map. Susceptibility analysis was done using the Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method. Land subsidence features were associated with slum features and the result revealed a significantly high correlation (r = 0.844) between actual land subsidence areas and the developed susceptibility map.

**Keywords**: Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP); land subsidence; land use; Multi-Criteria Decision Making (MCDM); slum.

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J. Eng. Technol. Sci., Vol. 54, No. 1, 2022, 220106

#### **Evaluating Direct Pointing and Indirect Cursor Interactions with Fitts' Law in Stereoscopic Environments**

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#### Highlights:

- Movement time and throughput were analyzed for two modes of interaction (direct pointing and indirect cursor).
- Distance of target and difficulty level were considered.
- Direct pointing may be the best option for interacting with a stereoscopic target.
- The results contribute to the understanding and designing of effective user interactions in stereoscopic environments.

Abstract. The development of virtual environment research has reached the stage of human interaction with three-dimensional (3D) objects. In this study, Fitts' method was used for such interaction in a virtual environment, and the applicability of Fitts' law in 3D virtual environments was also considered. An experiment was using two modes of interaction (direct interaction and indirect interaction) that utilize different techniques depending on how users interact with a 3D object. Both interaction techniques were applied with three indexes of difficulty and three egocentric target distances (distance from the user to the target). Movement time and throughput were measured for each interaction technique. The results showed that the direct pointing technique is more efficient for interaction with targets close to the user, while the indirect cursor technique may be a viable option for targets further away from the user. The throughput was found to be significantly higher for the direct pointing technique compared to the indirect cursor technique. The results of mean movement time were highly correlated with the targets' index of difficulty for all interaction techniques, which is supporting evidence that Fitts' law can be applied to interactions in 3D virtual environments. Based on the results, developers of VE applications may relate to these findings in designing proper user interactions.

**Keywords**: direct pointing; Fitts' law; human interaction; indirect cursor; movement time; throughput; virtual environment.

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### Distribution of Microplastics along Mai Khao Coastline, Phuket

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#### **Highlights:**

- Microplastics were found in beach sediments with an average abundance of  $154.7 \pm 44$  items kg<sup>-1</sup>.
- White color (44.94%) and fiber shape (95%) were dominant characteristics.
- Polyethylene terephthalate (94.7%) was the most abundant plastic type.

Abstract. The distribution of microplastics at Mai Khao beach, Phuket, Thailand was studied. A total of 12 samples from four sample sites with 0.5 m x 0.5 m quadrats were taken at the intertidal zone during March and July, 2020, and sorted into two size classes (>300 µm and 20 to 300 µm). The mean abundance of microplastics at Mai Khao beach ranged from 44.08 to 68.7 items kg<sup>-1</sup> d.w. for  $>300 \,\mu\text{m}$  and from 90.6 to 106.1 items kg<sup>-1</sup> d.w. for the 20 to 300  $\mu\text{m}$  range. White (44.94%) and blue (23.60%) colors, and fiber shape (94.5%) were dominant in particle counts; and based on µFTIR analysis the dominant polymer type was polyethylene terephthalate (94.7% by number count), with considerable fractions of cotton and cellophane. The microplastic characteristics suggest anthropogenic activities as possible sources. Notably, the abundance of microplastic found in the study area was definitely higher than at other sites investigated along the west coast or Phuket. Significant differences in the abundances of the two microplastic size classes were observed (p < 0.05), indicating that the microplastics in Mai Khao beach can accumulate in the marine food chain and transfer up along the trophic levels. Therefore, urgent attention should be given to the contamination problem, with a proper management system and a public awareness campaign, to reduce the effects of microplastic on organisms and ecosystems.

Keywords: beach sediment; Mai Khao; microplastics; plastic waste; Phuket.

#### **1** Introduction

Plastics are purposefully manufactured for various target applications, such as personal care products, electronics, or food and beverage packaging, etc. The contamination of the marine environment by plastic is a major environmental concern and has recently been the subject of an increasing number of studies [1-

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