

FOREWORD

Adsorption-based technology has experienced a considerable change during the past 30 years from a relatively minor technique to a major one that industry, such as chemical or petrochemical, gaseous or liquid separation and/or purification, relies on today following the progress achieved in the fundamental research, development of novel adsorbents, new adsorption processes, and in combination with other processes, which implies a great potential of decreasing industrial cost. The present book, composed of selected papers of the 4th Pacific Basin Conference on Adsorption Science and Technology held in Tianjin, China for May 22-25, 2006, reflects partially the present state of the art.

Taking on the conference opportunity, about a hundred researchers got together from 18 countries or districts to exchange the recent achievements in adsorption research. However, a conference is indeed an information fair, whose function is more informative than educative. In addition, some papers might not be well organized/written due to the language problem. Therefore, instead of a full proceeding, a collection of contributions is published in the monograph. It is pitiful that some well known scholars could somehow not come to the conference, yet quite a few authors of the monograph are well known for the world adsorption community due to their publication and contribution to the progress of adsorption in the past years. Therefore, what presented in this monograph may attract the attention of adsorption researchers and do benefit their job. It is also desired that some points of view put forward in the book will consequence in more discussion or disputation, as such, real contribution is made to the future development.

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