

TAILOR-MADE NANO-SCALE ADDITIVES FOR CO₂/CH₄ GAS SEPARATION MIXED MATRIX MEMBRANES

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Abstract

Biogas production from renewable sources has the greatest potential to guarantee energetic demands of sustainable society. Unfortunately, biogas contains about one third of CO₂ and other contaminants. Therefore, an efficient purification is needed to obtain sufficiently pure methane for further use. Recently, polymer mixed matrix membranes (MMMs) with embedded liquid or solid additives are seen as promising candidates for radical improvement in gas separations[1]. The major issue for developing effective gas separation membranes with enhanced performance is successful overcoming of well-known trade-off[2]. An achievement of high permeability and selectivity towards the target gas is crucial.

In this work, performance of (i) unique ex-situ controlled tailor-made tunable nano-additives embedding into polyimide based MMMs and (ii) of PES based MMMs with 75 wt. % of ionic liquid 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide ([EMIM][Tf₂N]) targeted for CO₂/CH₄ separation from biogas is presented. Nano additives based on zeolite-imidazole frameworks (ZIF-8), Fe₃O₄ particles and surface-modified SiO₂ hollow spheres were imbedded into 4,4'-oxydiphtalanhydride (ODPA) and 4,4',4''-triaminotriphenylmethane (MTA) (1:1 mol/mol). Properties of additives and membranes were tested via gravimetric and time-lag fixed volume pressure increase methods[3].

Keywords: Tailor-made nanoadditives, mixed matrix membranes, biogas separation

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