

PSA UNIT FOR METHANE-NITROGEN SEPARATION

MODEL DETAILS:

- Pressure swing adsorption (PSA) in a bed packed with silicalite is an adequate technique for separation of N_2/CH_4 ;
- PSA is a cyclic dynamic process comprising two steps: adsorption (production) and desorption (recovery);
- ML application developed by Moura-Neto, M.H. and Monteiro, M.F., researchers from Núcleo de Pesquisa em Petróleo e Gás at Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Norte (Brazil);
- Decision Tree Regressor model using SciKit Learning and Python language were successfully applied for the calculations.

INTENDED USE

- Intended to be used for chemical engineers for calculations of stream composition obtained from a PSA unit and verify the influence of process variables in the unit outlet;
- Out-of-scope uses: the model is not adequate for PSA bed different from silicalite.

FACTORS:

- Calculate N_2 mole fraction in PSA outlet stream based on 12 operational (e.g. Adsorption pressure and temperature) and design (e.g. column's length and diameter) parameters;
- Among the fixed design variables, temperature was the only variable to show small influence on the overall process performance.

METRICS:

- Mean Square Error, Root Mean Square Error, Mean Absolute Error, Mean Absolute Percentage Error and R^2 metrics were considered as criterion to evaluate the quality of the split in the hyperparameters tuning;
- Mean Absolute Percentage Error was chosen as the best representative criteria to select the optimal hyperparameter configuration.

CAVEATS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Verify the units of the properties inserted;
- The application was designed to consider specific ranges of the input properties, properly described in the README.md file. Those limits shall be respected in order to ensure adequate calculation results;
- May have other variables that influence the adsorption process and were not considered for the model development.

TRAINING AND

EVALUATION DATA:

- The data used for model development were retrieved from: Hermes R. Sant Anna et al. Machine learning model and optimization of a PSA unit for methane-nitrogen separation, Comput. Chem. Eng., 104, 2017, 377-391.
- PSA operation conditions obtained by phenomenological modeling (1300 data points);
- Separated using train test split function of sciKit Learning;
- The ratio between train and validation was set to 0.3.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- Predicted N_2 concentrations are an approximation and must be used with caution in the development of the executive project of the industrial unit.

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSES:

- Mean Absolute Percentage Error of 11 % regarding the test dataset (390 data points).

