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THE AMORPHOUS ZEOLITE SYNTHETIC VS. NATURE IN NANOPARTICLES AS CELLULOSE

S.D. Yuwono[1]
Mulyono[1]
S. Sudibyo[2]
F. Nurjaman[2]
E. Prasetyo[2, 3]
T. Haryono[2]
D. Susanti[4]
H. Ardhyananta[4]
B. Kurniawan[5]
D. Handoko[5]
T. Suseno[1]
A.T. Mursito[1]
D. Syahidah[6]
B. Rina[7]
R.N. Baiti[8]
W.S. Sipahutar[9]
F. Bahfie[2] fath007@brin.go.id

[1] University of Lampung, Lampung, Indonesia
[2] Research Center of Mining Technology, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia, Lampung, Indonesia
[3] Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Kjemi, Gløshaugen, Trondheim, Norway
[4] Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology, Surabaya, Indonesia
[5] University of Indonesia, Depok, West Java, Indonesia
[6] Research Center for Veterinary Science, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia
[7] Research Center for Genetic Engineering, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia, Bogor, West Java, Indonesia
[8] State Polytechnic of Bali, Bukit Jimbaran, South Kuta, Badung, Bali, Indonesia
[9] Sumatera Institute of Technology, South Lampung, Lampung, Indonesia

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Abstract

The various aspects of zeolites, including their physical and chemical properties, applications, types, purification methods, and recent research in both synthetic and natural zeolites. The discussion also focused on the

Keywords

Natural zeolite, synthetic zeolite, synthesis, application, amorphous, nanoparticles

mechanisms involved in synthesizing nano-sized zeolites and the impact of particle size on their properties. The discussion highlighted the advantages and disadvantages of both natural and synthetic zeolites, with a particular emphasis on the importance of particle size in determining their properties. Recent developments in the field of nano-zeolites and green synthesis methods were also explored, underscoring the potential for more sustainable and environmentally friendly approaches to zeolite production. Additionally, the conversation touched upon green synthesis methods for producing nano-zeolites and their advantages. The overall conclusion is that zeolites have significant potential in many fields such as pointing to a promising future for this versatile class of materials and ongoing research in nano-zeolites and green synthesis methods will continue to expand their applications

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Introduction. Zeolites are a group of natural or synthetic minerals with a unique porous structure, often used in a wide range of applications in various industries. Zeolites are primarily composed of aluminum, silicon, and oxygen, and they have a crystalline structure that resembles a honeycomb, according in Fig. 1. Zeolites are known for their ability to adsorb and exchange ions or molecules, thanks to their porous structure. This makes them useful in a wide range of applications, zeolites can remove calcium and magnesium ions from hard water, making it soft and more suitable for household and industrial use, according in Fig. 2. It can act as catalysts, facilitating chemical reactions in various industrial processes. It can selectively adsorb certain gases, such as carbon dioxide, from gas mixtures, making them useful in gas separation processes. It can be used to remove pollutants and heavy metals from water and soil, making them useful in environmental remediation. It can improve soil quality and plant growth by increasing the retention of water and nutrients in the soil. Zeolites are versatile materials with many practical applications across various industries, including agriculture, environmental remediation, and manufacturing [1, 2].

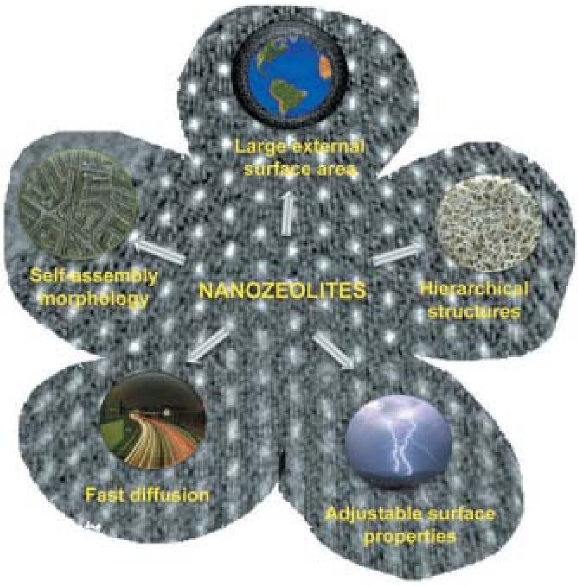

Fig. 1. The structural properties of nano-zeolite

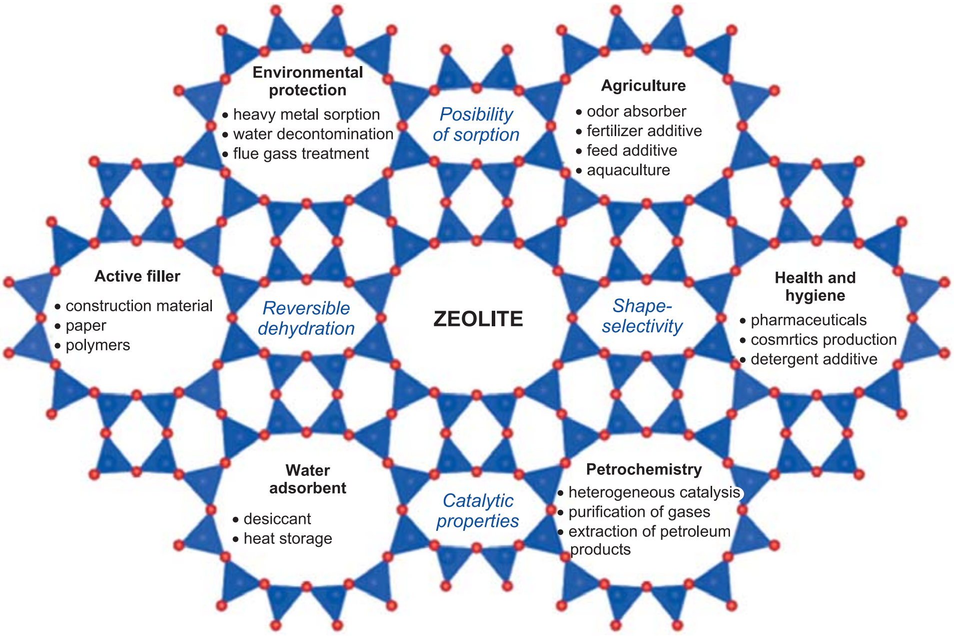

Fig. 2. The application of zeolite

Zeolites have unique physical and chemical properties that make them useful in various applications. Here are some of the important properties of zeolites, have a crystalline structure with a three-dimensional framework of interconnected channels and cavities. These pores have a uniform size and shape, making them useful for selective adsorption and separation of molecules and ions. They have a large surface area per unit volume, which allows them to adsorb a high number of molecules and ions. They are relatively hard minerals, with a hardness of 4.5–5 on the Mohs scale. Zeolites are thermally stable, and they can withstand high temperatures without losing their structure or properties. Zeolites have a high ion exchange capacity due to their negatively charged framework and the presence of exchangeable cations, such as sodium, potassium, and calcium. They have acidic properties due to the presence of aluminum atoms in their framework, which can act as Lewis's acid sites. They can selectively adsorb molecules and ions based on their size, shape, and polarity, making them useful in various separation and purification processes. They have catalytic properties due to their acidic sites and high surface area, making them useful in various chemical reactions and industrial processes. The unique physical and chemical properties of zeolites make them versatile materials with many practical applications in various industries, including environmental remediation, catalysis, and gas separation [3, 4].

Zeolites have a wide range of applications due to their unique properties, including their ability to selectively adsorb and exchange ions or molecules. Here are some of the most common applications and uses of zeolites, they can remove calcium and magnesium ions from hard water, making it soft and more suitable for household and industrial use. Zeolites can act as catalysts, facilitating chemical reactions in various industrial processes, such as petroleum refining, chemical synthesis, and gas processing. They can selectively adsorb certain gases, such as carbon dioxide, from gas mixtures, making them useful in gas separation processes. Zeolites can be used to remove pollutants and heavy metals from water and soil, making them useful in environmental remediation. They can improve soil quality and plant growth by increasing the retention of water and nutrients in the soil. It can be added to detergents to increase their effectiveness in removing dirt and stains from fabrics. It can be used to immobilize and store radioactive waste, thanks to their ability to selectively adsorb certain ions. It can be used as building materials, such as insulation and fireproofing materials, due to their thermal stability and fire resistance [5–11]. They have been used in medicine as drug delivery systems, wound dressings, and even as an antidiarrheal agent. The diverse range of applications and uses of zeolites makes them a versatile material with many practical applications across various industries, including agriculture, environmental remediation, and manufacturing.

Overview of zeolite nature and artificial. There are many different types of zeolites, both in their natural and synthetic forms. These are zeolites that occur naturally in the earth's crust. The most common natural zeolites include clinoptilolite, chabazite, heulandite, and stilbite. Synthetic zeolites, are produced in the laboratory or in industrial settings. Synthetic zeolites can be made to have specific pore sizes, shapes, and compositions to suit various applications. Some common synthetic zeolites include Zeolite A, Zeolite X, and Zeolite Y. Raw material zeolites are used in their natural form without any modification or processing. Raw material zeolites are commonly used in applications such as agriculture, environmental remediation, and water filtration. Modified zeolites have been modified through various processes, such as ion exchange, calcination, or steam treatment, to enhance their properties or tailor them to specific applications. Modified zeolites are commonly used in applications such as catalysis, gas separation, and chemical synthesis [12–15]. Overall, the type of zeolite used depends on the specific application and the properties required. Natural zeolites may be used in their raw form for applications such as water filtration or agriculture, while synthetic or modified zeolites may be used for more specialized applications, such as catalysis or gas separation.

The choice between synthetic and natural zeolites depends on the specific application and the desired properties. Here are some of the advantages and disadvantages of both synthetic and natural zeolites. Synthetic zeolites can be designed to have specific properties, such as pore size, shape, and composition, making them useful in specialized applications. And they are typically very pure and free of impurities, making them useful in applications where purity is critical. They also have consistent properties and quality, which can be important in industrial applications. For disadvantages, synthetic zeolites are typically more expensive than natural zeolites due to the cost of production. The production of synthetic zeolites requires a significant amount of energy, which can contribute to carbon emissions and climate change [16–19].

Natural zeolites are typically less expensive than synthetic zeolites due to their abundance in nature. They require minimal energy input to extract and process, making them a more environmentally friendly option. They are abundant in nature and can be found in various locations worldwide. For disadvantages of natural zeolites, they can vary in quality and purity, which can make them less suitable for some applications. The properties of natural zeolites cannot be controlled or designed as precisely as synthetic zeolites, which can limit their usefulness in some applications [20–24]. Overall, the choice between synthetic and natural zeolites depends on the specific application and the desired properties. Synthetic zeolites may be more suitable for specialized applications where precise control over properties is required, while natural zeolites may be more suitable for applications where cost and environmental impact are important factors.

Zeolite synthesis and its processing. Zeolites can be purified through various methods, depending on the type of impurities present and the desired level of purity. Here are some of the most common methods of zeolite purification, zeolites can be treated with acid, such as hydrochloric acid or sulfuric acid, to remove metal impurities. Acid washing can also increase the surface area of the zeolite, which can improve its performance in applications such as catalysis. They can be heated to high temperatures, typically between 400–600 °C, to remove organic impurities and regenerate the zeolite structure. Calcination can also improve the thermal stability and durability of the zeolite. Zeolites can be treated with steam to remove residual organic impurities and improve their surface properties. Steam treatment can also modify the pore size and distribution of the zeolite, making it more suitable for certain applications. They can be treated with solutions containing cations, such as ammonium, sodium, or potassium ions, to replace metal impurities or undesirable ions in the zeolite structure. Ion exchange can improve the selectivity and performance of the zeolite in various applications. Zeolites can be washed and filtered using water or other solvents to remove particulate impurities and residual chemicals from the production process. Overall, the method of zeolite purification depends on the specific type of impurities present and the desired level of purity. The purification process may involve one or several of these methods to achieve the desired level of purity and performance according in Fig. 3.

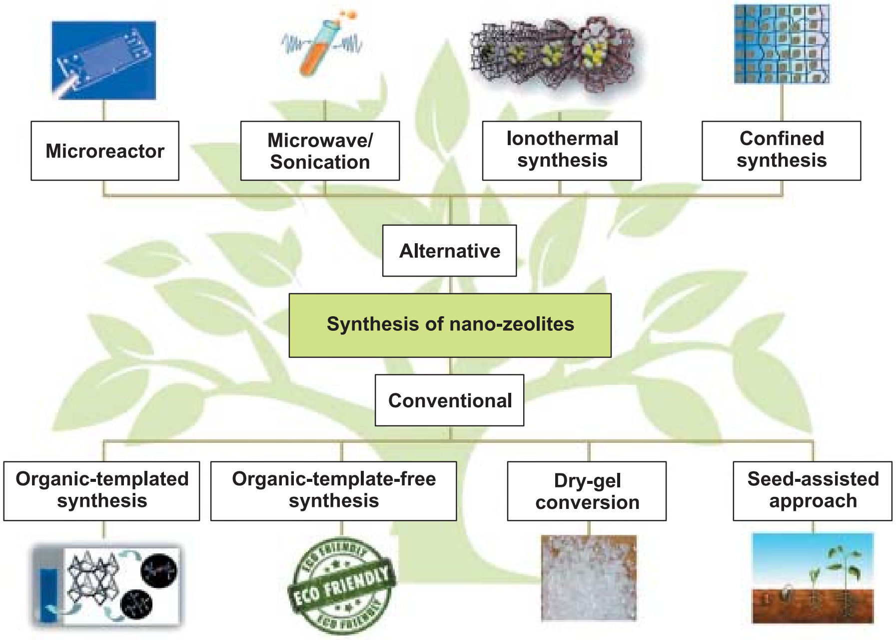

Fig. 3. The process of zeolite synthesis [11]

Recent advancements in both natural and synthetic zeolites have opened new possibilities for their use in various applications. Here are some of the latest developments and potential future applications for both types of zeolites, natural zeolites have shown promise in a variety of environmental applications, such as water treatment, air pollution control, and soil remediation. Recent research has explored their use in removing heavy metals, organic contaminants, and other pollutants from contaminated water and soil. Natural zeolites have also been used in agriculture as soil amendments and fertilizers. Their porous structure can improve soil moisture retention and nutrient uptake, leading to increased crop yields and quality. They have been studied for their potential use in medical applications, such as drug delivery, wound healing, and tissue engineering.

Their biocompatibility and ability to adsorb and release drugs make them attractive candidates for various medical applications. Synthetic zeolites have been widely used in catalytic processes in the chemical and petrochemical industries. Recent research has focused on designing new synthetic zeolites with tailored properties for more efficient and selective catalytic reactions. Synthetic zeolites have also shown potential in gas separation applications, such as separating carbon dioxide from natural gas or air. New synthetic zeolites with enhanced gas separation properties are being developed for various industrial applications. The other applications, they have been studied for their potential use in energy storage applications, such as storing hydrogen for fuel cells or capturing carbon dioxide from power plants. New synthetic zeolites with improved capacity and selectivity for these applications are being developed. Overall, both natural and synthetic zeolites continue to be researched and developed for a wide range of applications, from environmental and agricultural uses to industrial and medical applications. The future of zeolites looks promising, as researchers continue to explore new ways to design and use these versatile materials [25–35].

The mechanisms for synthesizing synthetic and natural zeolites differ, as they involve different starting materials and processes. Here are the general mechanisms for synthesizing both types of zeolites, synthetic zeolites are typically synthesized from a reaction mixture containing a source of silica, a source of alumina, and a structure-directing agent (SDA) that helps control the size and shape of the zeolite crystals. The reaction mixture is then subjected to a hydrothermal treatment, typically at high temperatures and pressures, to promote the formation of the zeolite structure. During the hydrothermal treatment, the silica and alumina precursors react to form the framework of the zeolite, while the SDA helps to direct the formation of the zeolite crystal structure. After the hydrothermal treatment, the resulting zeolite crystals are allowed to cool and are then washed and filtered to remove any residual reaction products or impurities [36–38]. Natural zeolites are formed over geological time scales through the interaction of volcanic activity or hydrothermal activity with surrounding rock formations. During this process, ions and molecules are exchanged between the volcanic fluids and the surrounding minerals, leading to the formation of the zeolite structure. They are typically mined from deposits and processed to remove impurities and reduce the particle size to a usable form. Natural zeolites may also be activated through various methods, such as calcination or acid washing, to improve their performance in various applications. Overall, the mechanisms for synthesizing synthetic and natural zeolites differ due to their different starting materials and processes. While synthetic zeolites are synthesized through a controlled hydrothermal reaction, natural zeolites are formed over geological time scales and must be mined and processed to be used in various applications.

The particle size of both natural and synthetic zeolites can have a significant effect on their performance in various applications. Here are some examples of how particle size can impact the properties and applications of zeolites, the adsorption capacity of zeolites for gases and liquids can be influenced by their particle size. Generally, smaller particle sizes result in higher surface area and pore volume, which can increase the adsorption capacity of the zeolite. The catalytic activity of zeolites is often influenced by the size of the zeolite crystals. Smaller crystals can lead to higher activity due to improved accessibility of the active sites on the zeolite surface. The particle size of zeolites can also affect their mechanical properties, such as their hardness and abrasion resistance. Smaller particles can be more prone to breakage and wear, while larger particles can be more durable. It can also impact their processing and handling in various applications. For example, smaller particle sizes may be more difficult to handle and disperse, while larger particle sizes may be more prone to settling and clogging in filtration applications. In general, the optimal particle size of zeolites depends on the specific application and the desired properties. For example, smaller particle sizes may be preferred for high adsorption capacity or catalytic activity, while larger particle sizes may be preferred for better mechanical durability and ease of handling. Both natural and synthetic zeolites can be produced in a range of particle sizes to suit different applications [31, 32].

The mechanisms for making nano-synthetic and natural zeolite involve specific techniques to reduce the particle size of the zeolite crystals to the nano-scale. Here are some common methods for producing nano-zeolites, the sol-gel method involves the use of a precursor solution that is processed into a gel-like substance, which is then dried and calcined to produce the final zeolite product. By controlling the size of the precursor particles and the conditions of the drying and calcination process, it is possible to produce nano-sized zeolite crystals. The hydrothermal synthesis method involves the use of a high-pressure, high-temperature reactor to promote the formation of nano-sized zeolite crystals. By controlling the reaction conditions, such as the temperature, pressure, and reaction time, it is possible to produce zeolite crystals in the nanometer range. The microwave-assisted synthesis method involves the use of microwave radiation to promote the formation of nano-sized zeolite crystals. This method can be used for both synthetic and natural zeolites and has the advantage of shorter reaction times and reduced energy consumption compared to traditional hydrothermal methods. The top-down milling method involves the mechanical milling of bulk zeolite crystals to produce nano-sized particles. This method can be used for both synthetic and natural zeolites and involves the use of high-energy ball mills to grind the crystals down to the desired size. Overall, the mechanisms for making nano-synthetic and natural zeolites involve specific techniques to control the particle size of the zeolite crystals. These techniques can be used to produce zeolite particles in the nanometer range, which can have unique properties and applications compared to larger-sized particles [33–35].

Nano-sized zeolites, both synthetic and natural, offer unique properties and advantages compared to larger-sized particles. Here are some of the best and less of nano-synthetic and natural zeolites, nano-sized zeolites have a higher surface area compared to larger particles, which can lead to increased reactivity and adsorption capacity. Nano-sized zeolites can have higher catalytic activity due to their increased surface area and improved accessibility of active sites. They can exhibit improved selectivity in catalysis and adsorption applications due to their unique size and shape. The other advantages, nano-sized zeolites can be more easily dispersed in liquids and other media, which can improve their performance in various applications. Nano-sized zeolites can be used for targeted drug delivery and other medical applications due to their small size and ability to penetrate cell membranes. For disadvantages of nano-synthetic and natural zeolite, the increased surface area of nano-sized zeolites can also make them more reactive and susceptible to chemical and physical changes. Nano-sized zeolites can be more difficult to handle and process due to their small size, which can increase the risk of contamination or aggregation. Producing nano-sized zeolites can be more expensive than producing larger-sized particles due to the additional processing steps and specialized equipment required. Like all nanoparticles, there is a potential for toxicity associated with nano-sized zeolites, particularly if they are inhaled or ingested [36–38]. The advantages and disadvantages of nano-sized synthetic and natural zeolites depend on the specific application and the desired properties. While they offer unique benefits compared to larger-sized particles, it is important to consider the potential risks and challenges associated with their production and use.

Recent research of nano synthetic and natural zeolite. There has been a significant amount of recent research into the use of nano-synthetic and natural zeolites for various applications. Here are a few examples of recent research work on this topic, nano-synthetic zeolites for environmental applications, the use of nano-synthetic zeolites for the removal of pollutants from wastewater. The researchers found that the nano-sized zeolites had a higher adsorption capacity and faster kinetics compared to larger-sized particles. Natural zeolite nanoparticles for medical applications, the use of natural zeolite nanoparticles for drug delivery in cancer treatment.

The researchers found that the nanoparticles had a high drug loading capacity and were effective in targeting cancer cells in vitro. Nano-synthetic zeolites for catalysis, the use of nano synthetic zeolites for catalytic applications. The researchers found that the nano-sized zeolites exhibited improved catalytic activity and selectivity compared to larger-sized particles [36–38]. Natural zeolite nanoparticles for agricultural applications, the use of natural zeolite nanoparticles as a fertilizer in agriculture. The researchers found that the nanoparticles improved the growth and yield of tomato plants compared to conventional fertilizers. Overall, these recent studies highlight the potential of nano-synthetic and natural zeolites for a wide range of applications, including environmental remediation, medical treatment, catalysis, and agriculture. Further research in this area is likely to uncover even more innovative usesfor these unique materials.

Green synthesis is a process that involves the use of environmentally friendly materials and methods to synthesize nanoparticles, including nano-synthetic and natural zeolites [30]. Here are some examples of green synthesis processes for making these types of nanoparticles, biosynthesis involves using biological agents, such as bacteria or plant extracts, to synthesize nanoparticles. For example, natural zeolite nanoparticles could be synthesized using a plant extract from Eucalyptus globulus leaves [25]. The other way, microwave-assisted synthesis involves using microwave radiation to heat and activate the precursor materials used in the synthesis process. This method can be more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly compared to traditional heating methods. For example, nano-synthetic zeolites could be synthesized using a microwave-assisted method. The common way, sol-gel synthesis involves using a solution-based method to create a gel that is then dried and heated to produce nanoparticles. This method can be performed using environmentally friendly solvents and has lower energy requirements compared to other synthesis methods. For example, natural zeolite nanoparticles could be synthesized using a sol-gel method. Hydrothermal synthesis involves using high-pressure and high-temperature conditions to create nanoparticles from precursor materials. This method can be performed using environmentally friendly solvents and has been used to synthesize both nano-synthetic and natural zeolites. For example, nano-synthetic zeolites could be synthesized using a hydrothermal method. The green synthesis processes offer a more sustainable and environmentally friendly approach to synthesizing nanoparticles, including nano-synthetic and natural zeolites. By using biologically derived materials or minimizing the use of harmful chemicals and energy-intensive processes, these methods can help to reduce the environmental impact of nanoparticle synthesis.

Conclusion. Zeolites are a unique class of minerals with a wide range of applications in various fields, including environmental remediation, catalysis, and medicine. Both natural and synthetic zeolites have their own advantages and disadvantages, and their properties can be modified by changing their particle size and shape. Recent research has focused on the use of nano synthetic and natural zeolites, which offer improved performance and selectivity in many applications. Green synthesis methods, such as biosynthesis and sol-gel synthesis, offer a more sustainable and environmentally friendly approach to synthesizing nano-zeolites. Overall, the potential of zeolites in various fields and the ongoing research in nano-synthetic and natural zeolites and green synthesis methods indicate that they will continue to be an important area of research and development in the future.

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Yuwono Suripto Dwi — Dr. Sc. (Chem.), Department of Chemistry, University of Lampung (Bandar Lampung, Lampung, 35141 Indonesia).

Mulyono — Ph.D. (Chem.), Department of Chemistry, University of Lampung (Bandar Lampung, Lampung, 35141 Indonesia).

Sudibyo Sudibyo — Ph. D. (Chem.), Research Center of Mining Technology, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (South Lampung, Lampung, 35361 Indonesia).

Nurjaman Fajar — Dr. Sc. (Eng.), Senior Researcher, Research Center of Mining Technology, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (South Lampung, Lampung, 35361 Indonesia).

Prasetyo Erik — Researcher, Research Center of Mining Technology, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (South Lampung, Lampung, 35361 Indonesia); Researcher, Department of Chemical Engineering, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Kjemi 4, Gløshaugen, N-7491, Trondheim, Norway).

Haryono Tri — Researcher, Research Center of Mining Technology, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (South Lampung, Lampung, 35361 Indonesia).

Susanti Diah — Ph. D., Metallurgical and Material Engineering Department, Faculty of Industrial Technology and Systems Engineering, Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology (Jl. Teknik Kimia, Keputih, Kec. Sukolilo, Surabaya, Jawa Timur, 60111 Indonesia).

Ardhyananta Hosta — Dr. Sc., Metallurgical and Material Engineering Department, Faculty of Industrial Technology and Systems Engineering, Sepuluh Nopember Institute of Technology (Jl. Teknik Kimia, Keputih, Kec. Sukolilo, Surabaya, Jawa Timur, 60111 Indonesia).

Kurniawan Budhy — Dr. Sc., Department of Physics, University of Indonesia (F Building, Campus of UI, Depok, West Java, 16424 Indonesia).

Handoko Djati — Dr. Sc., Department of Physics, Faculty of Mathematics and Science, University of Indonesia (F Building, Campus of UI, Depok, West Java, 16424 Indonesia).

Suseno Triwan — Ph. D., Department of Chemistry, University of Lampung (Bandar Lampung, Lampung, 35141 Indonesia).

Mursito Anggoro Tri — Dr. Sc., Department of Chemistry, University of Lampung (Bandar Lampung, Lampung, 35141 Indonesia).

Syahidah Dewi — Ph. D., Research Center for Veterinary Science, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (Jl. R.E. Martadinata 30 Bogor, West Java, Indonesia 16114).

Rina Bernadetta — Research Center for Genetic Engineering, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (Bogor, West Java, Indonesia 16911).

Baiti Risa Nurin — Dr. Sc., State Polytechnic of Bali (Bukit Jimbaran, South Kuta, Badung, Bali, 80361 Indonesia).

Sipahutar Wahyu Solafide — Lecturer, Department of Materials Engineering, Sumatera Institute of Technology (Sumatera, South Lampung, Lampung, 35551 Indonesia).

Bahfie Fathan — Researcher, Research Center of Mining Technology, National Research and Innovation Agency of Indonesia (South Lampung, Lampung, 35361 Indonesia).

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