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## The role of mineral matter in the concentration of phosphorus in bituminous coal seams from the Lublin Formation in the Lublin Coal Basin in Poland

### Introduction

In non-organic sedimentary rocks, phosphorus occurs mainly in the minerals of the apatite group (e.g., [Stamatakis 2004](#); [Khan et al. 2012](#); [Baïoumy 2007](#)). However, in the rocks surrounding coal strata and in the coal seams, the sources of phosphorus apart from these minerals are also: crandallite, goyazite, gorcexite (e.g. [Kokowska-Pawłowska and Nowak 2013](#); [Muszyński and Wyszomirski 1998](#); [Rao and Walsh 1999](#); [Ward 2002](#); [Ward et al. 1996](#)). Studies of the contents and mode of minor elements binding in coal are important to understand the causes and sites of their accumulation in the coal deposits. The arrangement of the elements in a deposit is the result of processes associated with the accumulation of organic matter, coalification, as the interactions between organic matter and syn- and epigenetic solutions, and volcanic interference.

Recently, the object of the geochemical studies of Polish coal-bearing formations were mainly coals from the Upper Silesian Coal Basin (USCB), and Lower Silesian Coal Basin (LSCB) and, rarely, from the Lublin Coal Basin (LCB). The increasing share of LCB coals in the total weight of the annual coal production in Poland encourages its deeper geochemical recognition. Geochemical investigation of these coals began in 1978 in the Polish Geological Institute in Warsaw (PGI). In cooperation between the Upper Silesian Branch of the PGI in

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Sosnowiec; the Central Mining Institute in Katowice; and the Department of Earth Sciences, the University of Silesia, covered under the “Fund of Maria Curie-Skłodowska”, program the contents of 25 minor elements and trace elements were determined in the coal from the boreholes in the Chelm seam. In these investigations it was found, among others, that the content of most elements in the coal decreases with the depth of the deposit; and Be, Cu and Zn are bonded with organic matter; and Li, Mo, Cd, Cr, V, Pb and Zn are associated with the mineral substance (Bojakowska and Pasieczna 2007; Cebulak 1983; Cebulak and Rózkowska 1983; Marczak 1985; Marczak and Lewińska 1982; Marczak and Parzenty 1985, 1989).

The phosphorus occurrence in the LCB coal has been described so far in two publications. Firstly Cebulak (1983) calculated the ratio of coal enrichment in P relative to the Earth's crust (equal to 0.21), and then Staniek (1985) described the  $P_2O_5$  content in coal ash from the 382 seam (0.87 wt. %) and the 383 seam (4.87 wt. %) in the Bogdanka mine and ash derived from coal from 10 boreholes (1–4 wt. %) adjacent to this mine.

In the current study there is an opportunity for determining previously ungratified information about the mode of phosphorus binding in the LCB coal. This information can be used in the prediction of this element contents in the furnace waste, sometimes used as an additive to soils improving their properties. The author previously determined the content and mode of binding of Ag, Sn and W – in the mineral matter of coal from the LCB (Parzenty 2009). The aim of the present paper is to define the role of mineral and organic matter on the concentration of phosphorus in coal from the Lublin Formation, the most coal-bearing strata being the best developed and recognized in terms of the mining parts of the LCB.

## 1. Material and methods

The study included 30 samples of bituminous coal taken from the Bogdanka and Chelm deposits. The geological characteristics of the researched areas in the LCB (after Porzycki and Zdanowski 1995) and the location of the places from where samples were taken were presented in the previous article (Parzenty 2009). The simplified scheme of the geological structure of the researched areas is shown in Figure 1. The Chelm samples come from the 378, 382, 385, 387, 389, 391, and 394 seams, which PGI identified in the seven cores of the 7 boreholes (the Cyców IG-5, Cyców IG-6, Dorohucza IG-4, Dorohucza IG-6, Dorohucza IG-8, Syczyn IG-2, and Syczyn IG-3), sampled and transferred for investigation. In the Bogdanka seam, eight coal seam samples were taken, with four samples from the 382 and 385 seams by means of cutting out a column of coal in the seam, starting from the floor to the roof of the seam.

Maceral and mineral compositions were determined using a Zeiss Axio Imager D1m microscope (40 × objective, 10 × oculars, 546-nm interference filters, non-polarized reflected light, oil immersion with the refractive index  $n = 1.5176$  at 23°C) and a D8 Discover X-ray Diffractometer (iron-filtered  $CoK\alpha$  radiation, Ni filter and Lynxeye detector). The results are shown in Table 1. The ash content in coal was found in 525°C. The contents of P, Si, Al, Fe,

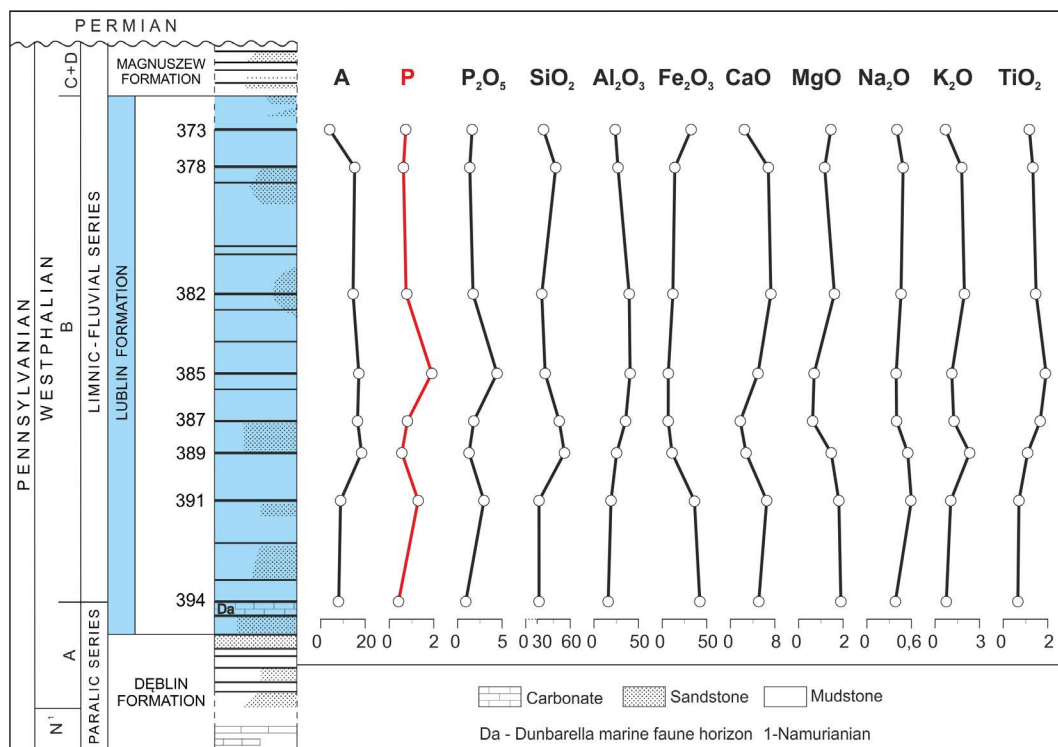


Fig. 1. Contents (wt. %) of ash and phosphorus in coal and  $P_2O_5$ ,  $SiO_2$ ,  $Al_2O_3$ ,  $Fe_2O_3$ ,  $CaO$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $Na_2O$ ,  $K_2O$  and  $TiO_2$  contents in coal ash in vertical profile of the Lublin Formation

Rys. 1. Zawartość (% wag.) popiołu węgla i fosforu w węglu oraz zawartość  $P_2O_5$ ,  $SiO_2$ ,  $Al_2O_3$ ,  $Fe_2O_3$ ,  $CaO$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $Na_2O$ ,  $K_2O$  i  $TiO_2$  w popiele węgla w profilu pionowym formacji Lublina

Ca, Mg, Na, K, and Ti in coal ash were determined by inductively coupled plasma-emission spectrometry (ICP-ES); next recalculated to the phosphorus contents in the coal and the oxides contents of other elements in the coal ash (Table 2, Figs. 1–3). A scanning electron microscope with energy dispersive X-ray (SEM/EDS) was used to determine the mineral and phosphorus contents in the grains of macerals and mineral matter. The analytical conditions were as follows: Acc. voltage = 15.0 kV, bse-comp = 30Pa, image resolution =  $1024 \times 768$ , image pixel size =  $0.04\text{--}0.27 \mu\text{m}$ , magnification =  $90\text{--}5000\times$ ). The results are shown in Fig. 4.

## 2. Calculations

Based on Pearson's chi-square test and the Kolmogorov-Smirnov and Shaphiro-Wilk tests (at the  $\rho = 0.05$  significance level) it was found that the contents of petrographic and

Table 1. Petrographic composition (% vol.), coal ash content (wt. %) and vitrinite reflectance (%) of coal from Lublin Formation

Tabela 1. Skład petrograficzny (% vol.), zawartość popiołu węgla (% wag.) i refleksyjność wityrynytu (%) węgla z formacji Lublina

| Component             | Content |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Vitrinite             | 57.3    |
|                       | (63.7)* |
| Liptinite             | 23.1    |
|                       | (25.7)* |
| Inertinite            | 9.6     |
|                       | (10.6)* |
| Mineral matter        | 10.0    |
| Kaolinite             | 2.4     |
| Illite+muscovite      | 1.9     |
| Montmorillonite       | 0.3     |
| Quartz                | 1.9     |
| Chalcedony            | 0.2     |
| Feldspar              | 0.3     |
| Siderite              | 0.2     |
| Dolomite+ankerite     | 0.8     |
| Jarosite              | sg      |
| Gypsum                | sg      |
| Pyrite+marcasite      | 1.8     |
| Chalcopyrite          | sg      |
| Galena                | sg      |
| Sphalerite            | sg      |
| Crandallite ?         | 0.1     |
| Apatite ?             | 0.1     |
| Coal ash content      | 13.9    |
| Vitrinite reflectance | 0.64    |

\* Petrographic composition in terms of coal without mineral matter; sg – single grain.

geochemical components show a normal distribution, and the arithmetical mean value estimates the average value well. In order to find the relationship between the ash content and the phosphorus content in the coal and coal ash, and between the phosphorus content in the coal and the contents of 26 other elements in the investigated coal (Ag, As, Ba, Be, Bi, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, La, Mn, Mo, Nb, Ni, Pb, Sb, Sc, Sn, Sr, Th, U, V, W, Y, Zn, and Zr) values of the Pearson correlation coefficient were calculated. Only statistically significant value of this factor of  $> \pm 0.35$  are given in Table 3.

Significant information concerning the trace-element affinity to organic- and inorganic coal fractions can be obtained from the data given by the concentration-distribution (*CD*) function of Marczak (1985) given below:

$$CD = C_A = C_0 \frac{A-1}{A} + KA + C_m$$

- ↪ *A* – ash content expressed as a mass fraction;
- C<sub>A</sub>* – trace element concentration (g/Mg) in ash;
- C<sub>0</sub>* – average trace-element concentration (g/Mg) in organic coal substance;
- K* – proportionality factor expressing a concentration increase (g/Mg) in ash;
- C<sub>m</sub>* – trace element concentration (g/Mg) in coal ash for a limit value *A* = 0.

The value *A* is determined empirically as the ash content in coal. Values of *C<sub>0</sub>*, *K*, and *C<sub>m</sub>* are determined mathematically by solving a system of three equations with three variables.  $C_0(1-A)/A$  in the above equation determines that part of the content of an element in coal ash that is associated with organic matter.  $KA + C_m$  involves the part which results from the presence of an element in the mineral matter. It has been previously shown that the *CD* function is useful in determining which part of a given trace-element concentration is associated with the organic fraction in coal, and which with the inorganic fraction (Lewińska-Preis et al. 2009; Parzentny 1994). The results obtained are given in Table 3.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Petrographic characteristics of coal seams

The petrographic composition of the tested coal, when recalculated as coal without mineral matter (Table 1), is similar to that of Palaeozoic coals in the North Atlantic region (*V<sub>t</sub>* = 68%, *L* = 12%, *I* = 20%) as determined by Vasconcelous (1999). In the coal seams there are accumulations of mineral matter, most commonly as veins in claystones and polymorphous FeS<sub>2</sub> veins. The 382 and 385 coal seams in the Lublin Coal Bogdanka Mine have a layer of tonstein (2.0–4.0 cm thick) and claystone, whereas in cores intersecting 387 and 391 seams

Table 2. Phosphorus content in researched coal compared to the results of other authors

Tabela 2. Zawartość fosforu w badanym węglu w porównaniu z wynikami badań innych autorów

| Author                                                     | Deposits, Beds           | Content          |                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                                                            |                          | P (g/Mg) in coal | P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (wt %) in coal ash |
| Ketris and Yudivich (2009)                                 | Coal Clarke values       | 250±10           | 0.15±0.01                                        |
| <b>Coal from LSCB</b>                                      |                          |                  |                                                  |
| Jęczalik (1970)                                            | dpcs*                    | 120**            |                                                  |
| Pendias (1964)                                             | Wałbrzych + Biały Kamień | 48**             | 0.080**                                          |
| Pendias (1966)                                             | Żacler                   | 54***            | 0.089**                                          |
|                                                            | Arithmetic mean          | 74.0             | 0.085                                            |
| <b>Coal from USCB</b>                                      |                          |                  |                                                  |
| Bouška (1981)                                              | Ostrava                  |                  | 0.953**                                          |
|                                                            | Karvina                  |                  | 0.877**                                          |
| Fleck (1865)                                               | Anticlinal Member        | 185              | 0.356**                                          |
| Gabzdyl (1967)                                             | Jastrzębie               | 205**            | 0.764**                                          |
| Grundmann (1861)                                           | Anticlinal Member        | 108***           | 0.191**                                          |
| Hajdus et al. (1981)                                       | Jaworzno–Mikołów         | 36**             | 0.046**                                          |
| Jensch (1886)                                              | Pokój                    | 578**            | 0.985**                                          |
| Jęczalik (1970)                                            | dpcs*                    | 322**            | 0.619                                            |
| Krzyżanowska (1960) – citation after Kuhl and Dąbek (1961) | Bielszowice              | 677**            | 5.22                                             |
| Kuhl (1961)                                                | Marcel                   | 582**            | 1.305**                                          |
| Kuhl and Dąbek (1961)                                      | Bielszowice              | 1055**           | 1.06                                             |
| Kuhl and Aleksa (1967)                                     | Pokój                    | 358**            | 0.47                                             |
| Kuhl and Widawska-Kuśmierska (1978)                        | Marcel                   |                  | 0.92                                             |
| Kuśmierska (1978)                                          | Zofiówka                 |                  | 4.71                                             |
| Marcisz (2014)                                             | Pniówek + Zofiówka       | 83***            | 0.147**                                          |
| Mielecki et al. (1963)                                     | dpcs*                    | 318**            | 0.545**                                          |
| Morga (2007)                                               | Pniówek                  | 86***            | 0.151**                                          |
| Olkuski et al. (2010)                                      | Jastrzębie Revier        | 53***            | 0.094**                                          |
| Róg (2005)                                                 | dpcs*                    | 356**            | 0.81**                                           |
| Rózkowska (1993)                                           | dpcs*                    | 412              | 0.792**                                          |
| Rózkowska and Parzenty (1990)                              | 22 boreholes             | 404              | 0.808**                                          |
| Widawska-Kuśmierska (1975)                                 | Brzeszcze + Wesola       |                  | 0.28–1.20                                        |
| Widawska-Kuśmierska (1981)                                 | dpcs*                    |                  | 0.1–5.0                                          |
| Wnękowska and Czubek (1951)                                | dpcs*                    | 515**            | 0.907***                                         |
|                                                            | Arithmetic mean          | 352.0            | 1.032                                            |
| <b>Coal from LCB</b>                                       |                          |                  |                                                  |
| Staniek (1985)                                             | 16 borehole and Bogdanka | 1098***          | 1.696**                                          |
| Researched area average                                    |                          | 1375             | 2.267                                            |
| range                                                      |                          | 0.077–2.644      | 0.206–6.055                                      |
|                                                            | Arithmetic mean          | 1236.5           | 1.982                                            |

\* Different places and coal seams.

\*\* Calculated by the author based on results by authors cited.

\*\*\* Calculated by the author based on the results authors cited and average content of ash in coal from LSCB (14.00%, by [Bossowski 1995](#)), USCB (13.00%, by [Jureczka and Kotas 1995](#)), LCB (14.82%, by [Porzycki and Zdanowski 1995](#)).

other authors found both layers and lenses of sediment of the origin pyroclastic (Lipiarski et al. 1993; Muszyński and Wyszomirski 1998; Porzycki and Zdanowski 1995). The composition of this matter mineral is dominated by pyrite and lower amounts of kaolinite and illite, and sporadically occurring phosphate minerals (probably crandallite and apatite).

On the basis of vitrinite reflectance ( $R_{o\text{ average}} = 0.64\%$ , Table 1) the studied coal was included into ortho-bituminous coal of medium rank (type C).

### 3.2. Phosphorus content in coal seams

The average content of phosphorus in the Lublin Formation investigated coal is significantly higher than hard coal Clarke values (Table 2). There are significant differences in the content of phosphorus in coal and in coal ash in the Lublin Formation profile (Fig. 1). These changes are accompanied by similar changes in the content of  $Al_2O_3$  (Pearson's correlation coefficient  $r = 0.50$ , Table 3) and  $TiO_2$  in the coal ash ( $r = 0.47$ ), and ash content in coal ( $r = 0.37$ ), as well as the lack of such dependence in the distribution of the  $SiO_2$ ,  $CaO$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $Fe_2O_3$ ,  $Na_2O$ , and  $K_2O$  contents in ash coal. Particularly high levels of phosphorus in coal and coal ash were found in the currently exploited 385 and 391 coal seams in the mining area of the Lublin Coal Bogdanka Mine and its SE neighborhood (Cyców IG-5, Cyców IG-6, Dorohuczka IG-4 boreholes, Fig. 2). The difference between the maximum and the minimum value of the phosphorus content in the coal between the coal sampling regions is high and decreases in the order of the following seams: 385 (1.97%), 391 (1.72%), 389 (1.15%), 387 (0.05%), 382 (0.92%), 394 (0.89%), and 378 (0.87%). The large difference in phosphorus contents in coal and high phosphorus content in 382, 385, 387, and 391 coal seams coincide with tonstein and claystone layers within these seams.

The high levels of phosphorus in coal and coal ash are most common in coal seams with a thickness of 1.20 m to 1.80 m (Fig. 3), i.e. the seams included into the economic LCB seams. This variability in P contents in coal is often accompanied by similar trends in ash content in coal and  $Al_2O_3$  and  $TiO_2$  contents in coal ash.

### 3.3. The role of organic and mineral matter in the concentration of phosphorus in coal

The following values of the Pearson correlation coefficient: 0.39 ( $r_{A-P}$  in coal), 0.50 ( $r_{Al-P}$  in coal), and 0.47 ( $r_{Ti-P}$  in coal) show the relationship between the increase of phosphorus content in coal and the content of mineral matter in coal (Table 3). The solution of the  $CD$  functions indicates a decisive influence of mineral matter on the P contents in coal and coal ash. SEM/EDS analysis showed a high phosphorus content in kaolinite aggregates of pyroclastic origin in the 382 and 385 coal seams (Fig. 4). Isometric grains (size 5–25 microns) of phosphates, probably crandallite and apatite are quite often present in these aggregates.

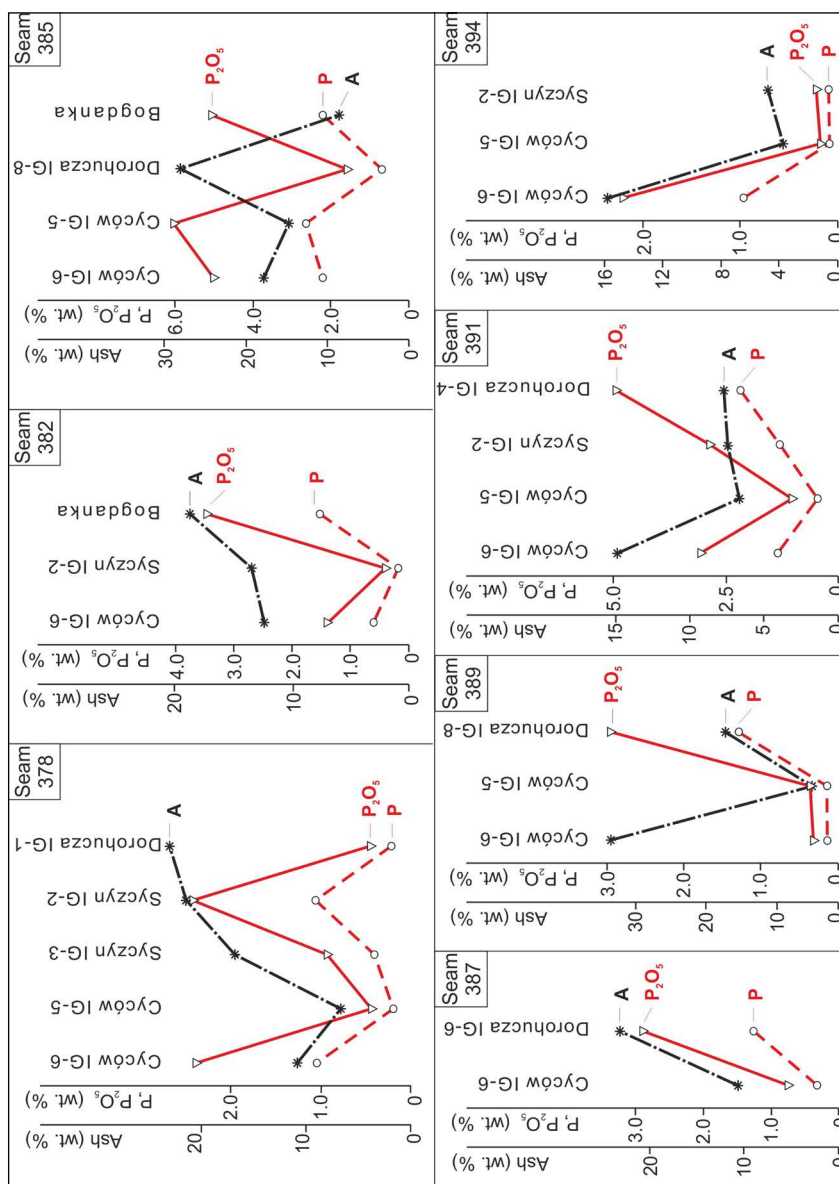


Fig. 2. Contents (wt. %) of ash and phosphorus in coal and  $P_2O_5$  content in coal ash shown along the ranges of some coal seams of the Lublin Formation (the order of the boreholes is random)

Rys. 2. Zawartość (% wag.) popiołu i fosforu w węglu oraz zawartość  $P_2O_5$  w popiele węgla po rozciągłości niektórych pokładów węgla w formacji Lublina (kolejność odwiertów jest losowa)



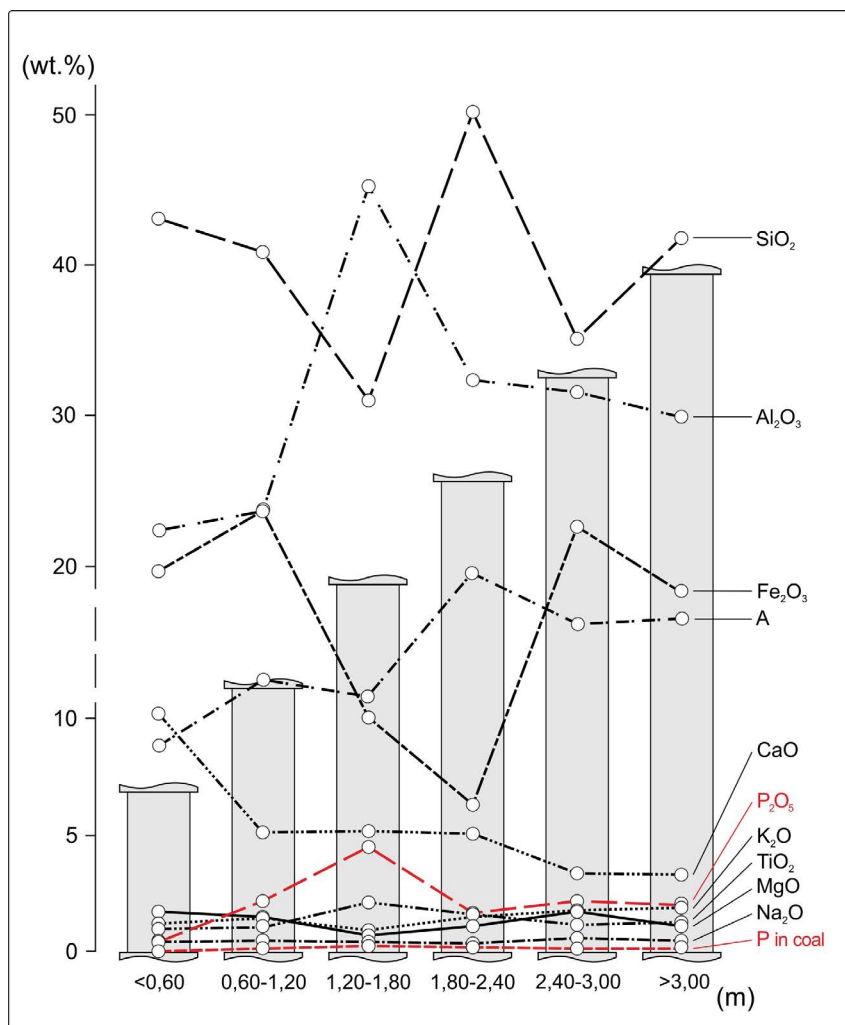


Fig. 3. Contents (wt. %) of ash and phosphorus in coal and  $P_2O_5$ ,  $SiO_2$ ,  $Al_2O_3$ ,  $Fe_2O_3$ ,  $CaO$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $Na_2O$ ,  $K_2O$ , and  $TiO_2$  contents in coal ash in coal seams of varying thickness in Lublin Formation

Rys. 3. Zawartość (% wag.) popiołu i fosforu w węglu oraz zawartość  $P_2O_5$ ,  $SiO_2$ ,  $Al_2O_3$ ,  $Fe_2O_3$ ,  $CaO$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $Na_2O$ ,  $K_2O$  i  $TiO_2$  w popiele węgla w zależności od grubości pokładów węgla w formacji Lublina

Additionally, there was a correlation between the phosphorus content and the content of Ba, Sn, Sr, Th, and Zr in coal, indicating the possibility of the coexistence of these elements in mineral substances of LCB coal. The presence of these elements in the vicinity of phosphate minerals was not confirmed by SEM/EDS, which does not exclude the coexistence of Ba and P, Sn, Sr, Th, and Zr in other forms of aggregates of mineral matter.

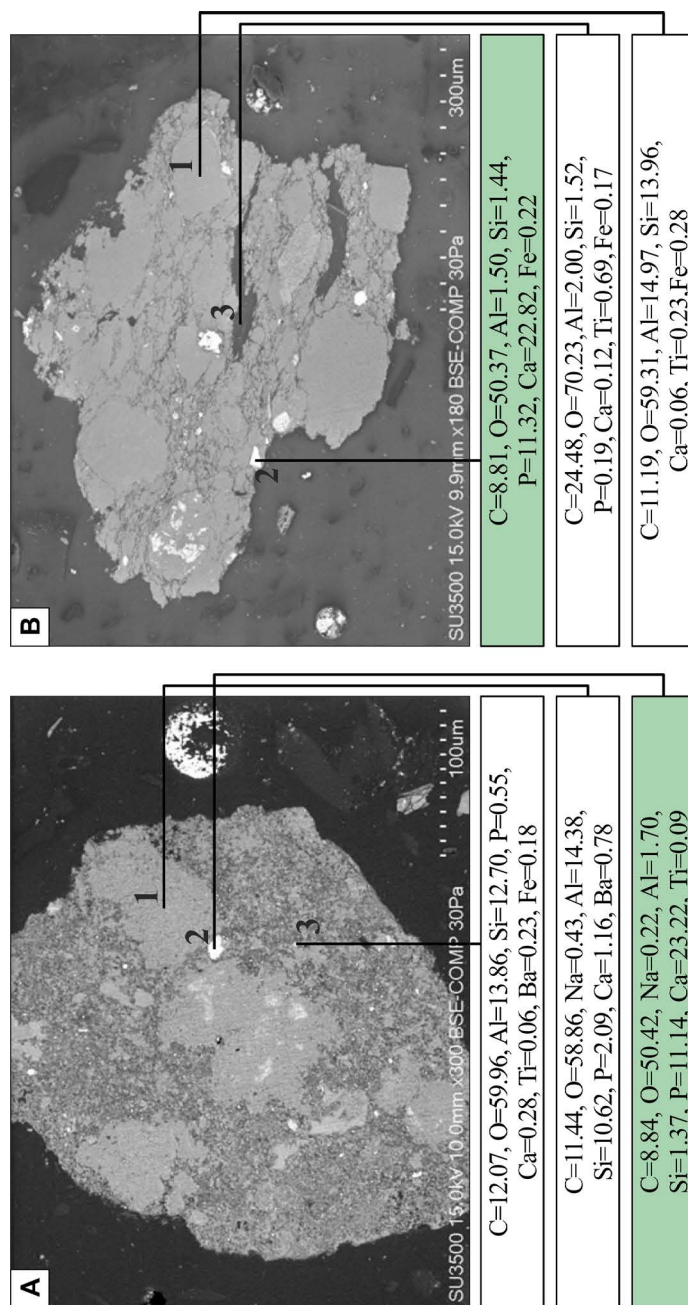


Fig. 4. SEM/EDS analysis of the: A – kaolinite aggregates (1, 3), and phosphorus minerals (2) in coal from coal seams 382; B – kaolinite aggregates (1), phosphorus minerals (2), and vitrimite streak (3) in tonstein from coal seams 385 in the Lublin Formation

Rys. 4. SEM/EDS analiza: A – agregatów kaolinitu (1, 3) i minerałów fosforanowych (2) w węglu z pokładu 382; B – agregatów kaolinitu (1), minerałów fosforanowych (2) i smugi wityryny (3) w tonsteinie z pokładu 385 w formacji Lublina

Table 3. Phosphorus distribution between the organic and mineral matter of coal from the Lublin Formation, determined using the *CD* function

Tabela 3. Dystrybucja fosforu między organiczną i mineralną materią węgla z formacji Lublina, określona przy użyciu funkcji *CD*

| Phosphorus  | Organic matter |   | Mineral matter |       |
|-------------|----------------|---|----------------|-------|
|             | wt. %          | % | wt. %          | %     |
| In coal ash | 0              | 0 | 1.503          | 100.0 |
| In coal*    | 0              | 0 | 0.134          | 100.0 |

\* Pearson correlation coefficients (*r*) of phosphorus (P) in coal with coal ash (A), and some elements:  $r_{A-P} = 0.39$ ,  $r_{P-Al} = 0.50$ ,  $r_{P-Ti} = 0.47$ ,  $r_{P-Ba} = 0.38$ ,  $r_{P-Sn} = 0.40$ ,  $r_{P-Sr} = 0.81$ ,  $r_{P-Th} = 0.40$ ,  $r_{P-Zr} = 0.32$ .

From the SEM/EDS analysis, it was found that the content of phosphorus in coal macerals from coal seams, which do not have tonstein layers and macerals occurring at a greater distance from tonstein ( $> 20$  cm) is low or lower than the detection limit of SEM/EDS (Fig. 4). In contrast, the phosphorus content of vitrinite being in direct contact with tonstein ( $< 20$  cm) or in a maceral dissecting a tonstein layer is greater than 0.10 wt. %.

#### 4. Discussion

In order to assess the geochemistry of the investigated coal geochemically and compare it to LSCB and USCB coals, an average P content in the coal and coal ash were calculated using previously published results of other authors. The comparison, summarized in Table 2, indicated that the average P content in coal from the Lublin Formation is significantly higher than that in coal from the LSCB and the USCB. A large value difference and an extremely high content of P in coal and coal ash has been previously reported in the coal ash from USCB (ca 5 wt. %  $P_2O_5$  in coal ash) by several authors (Kuhl and Dąbek 1961; Kuhl and Widawska-Kuśmierska 1978; Rózkowska and Parzenty 1990; Widawska-Kuśmierska 1981). The highest  $P_2O_5$  content in coal ash, up to 20 wt. %, was found in the Cook Inlet coals in Alaska (Rao and Walsh 1999).

The large differences in P contents in the coal investigated is not justified in increasing or decreasing P content in coal, depending on the stratigraphic affiliation of coal seams in the Lublin Formation (Fig. 1), or the thickness of the seams (Fig. 3). No trend in changes of P contents in coal was reported earlier in USCB coals (Marcisz 2014; Morga 2007; Rózkowska and Parzenty 1990) and in coal beds from Alaska (Rao et al. 1999) and Australia (Ward et al. 1996).

The high average P contents and their high variability in hard coal from the Lublin Formation probably result from a different genesis of this element in some coal seams in different

areas of their occurrence in LCB. The largest source of phosphorus in the 382, 385, 387, and 391 coal seams is probably from pyroclastic sediments, and in coal seams without tonsteins (378, 389, 394) – plant and animal remains. The observed weak correlation between increased P content and a reduced content of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  in the coal from the 382, 385, and 387 seams (Fig. 1) indicates the increased rate of phosphorus transition from organic matter to solutions of paleo-peatbog, which was indicated by Patric and Khalid (1974). Phosphorus of this origin is usually sorbed by clay minerals. A large P content in the coal and coal ash from the 394 seam (formed under paralic conditions) from the Cyców IG-6 borehole and the simultaneous relatively low P content in the coal from the Cyców IG-5 and Syczyn IG-2 boreholes (Fig. 3) indicate no effect of the marine fauna on the content of this element in the LCB paleo-peatbog.

According to Yudovich et al. (1985) in the coal of low and medium P content and low ash content, the major fraction of phosphorus in coal is bound to organic matter. At the same time, the organic phosphorus main source are phosphorus compounds adsorbed on peat and the secondary source are the remains of plants and animals. In contrast, in coals with above-the average and high P contents, the larger fraction of this element is present in the mineral matter as phosphates of aluminum, iron, and calcium. A large part of organic phosphorus is transformed to mineral phosphorus during coalification, resulting in the weight ratio of these two forms of phosphorus in lignite it is higher than in bituminous coal. There are autogenous apatite, gyoazite, gorceixite, and crandallite in the vitrinite vicinity (Ward et al. 1996). However, the main source of inorganic phosphorus in coal veins are pyroclastic materials (Kokowska-Pawłowska and Nowak 2013; Lipiarski et al. 1993; Muszyński and Wyszomirski 1998; Rao and Walsh 1999; Ward 2002).

Large amounts of phosphorus in the Lublin Formation coal is very disadvantageous for this coal application as a possible component of coking coal mixtures. Almost all the phosphorus contained in coal passes to the coke produced from it, which then enters the steel, worsening its properties (Diez et al. 2002; Mahony et al. 1981; Michalik and Bronny 2001; Sakurovs et al. 2007). The LCB bituminous coal due to its adverse physico-chemical indicators of coal quality has not been so far used for coking (Michalik and Bronny 2001). However, the high content of phosphorus in hard coal and coal ash from the Lublin Formation appears to be beneficial to the environment in the case of using fly ash to improve the soil quality. In coal combustion with a high P content, a large part of the phosphorus is in the phosphate mineral relics and spheres (phosphospheres) and in coal fly ash (Valentim et al. 2016), which may be slowly leached into the soil (Ciećko et al. 2015; Seshadri et al. 2013), and lead to improved soil fertility.

## Conclusions

1. It was found that there are high phosphorus contents in coal (1.38 g/Mg) and  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  in coal ash (2.27 wt%) of the Lublin Formation that are significantly higher than in USCB and

LSCB coals and coal ash, and much higher than Coal Clarke values. The P contents in coal and coal ash from the 385 and 391 coal seams in the area of the Lublin Coal Bogdanka Mine and in the area of its SE neighbor is the highest (max. 2.64 wt. % in coal and 6.06 wt. % of  $P_2O_5$  in coal ash).

2. Phosphate minerals (probably apatite and crandallite) present in kaolinite aggregates in tonsteins contain the most phosphorus and have the greatest impact on the average P contents in coals of the Lublin Formation.
  - ◆ In the coal seams containing tonsteins (382, 385, 387, 391) a number of isometric (5–25  $\mu\text{m}$ ) authigenic grains of phosphate minerals (probably apatite and crandallite) were found, which are the main source of phosphorus in coal, especially in the immediate vicinity of the tonstein veins.
  - ◆ The secondary source of phosphorus in the above-mentioned coal seams (i.e. 382, 385, 387, and 391) and the main source of phosphorus in the coal from seams that contains mineral matter of pyroclastic origin (378, 389, 394) are probably clay minerals, which adsorbed phosphorus compounds derived from organic matter.

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**THE ROLE OF MINERAL MATTER IN THE CONCENTRATION  
OF PHOSPHORUS IN BITUMINOUS COAL SEAMS FROM  
THE LUBLIN FORMATION IN THE LUBLIN COAL BASIN, POLAND**

Abstract

The study included bituminous coal seams (30 samples coal from the Bogdanka and Chełm deposits) of the Lublin Formation, the most coal-bearing strata in the best developed and recognized in terms of mining parts of the Lublin Coal Basin in Poland. High phosphorus concentrations in coal of the Lublin Formation were found (1375 g/Mg) as well as  $P_2O_5$  in coal ash (2.267 wt%). The phosphorus contents in coal and coal ash from the 385 and 391 coal seams in the area of the Lubelski Coal Bogdanka Mine and in the area of its SE neighbor is the highest (max. 2.644 wt. % in coal and 6.055 wt. % of  $P_2O_5$  in coal ash). It has been shown that mineral matter effectively affects phosphorus contents in coal and coal ash. At the same time, phosphate minerals (probably apatite and crandallite) present in kaolinite aggregates of tonsteins contain the most of phosphorus and have the greatest impact on the average P content in the 382, 385, 387, and 391. The secondary source of phosphorus in these coal seams and main source of phosphorus in these coal deposits that do not contain mineral matter of pyroclastic origin (378, 389, 394) may be clay minerals, which absorbed phosphorus compounds derived from organic matter released during coalification. Phosphorus-rich ash from the combustion of the Lublin Formation coal tend to be environmentally beneficial to the environment and also useful for improving the soil quality. Due to the low degree of coalification and high content of phosphorus in coal, this coals of little use for coking.

Key words: phosphorus, bituminous coal, coal seams, Lublin Coal Basin

**ROLA SUBSTANCJI MINERALNEJ W KONCENTROWANIU FOSFORU  
W POKŁADACH WĘGLA KAMIENNEGO Z FORMACJI LUBLINA  
W LUBELSKIM ZAGŁĘBIU WĘGLOWYM W POLSCE**

Streszczenie

Badaniami objęto pokłady węgla kamiennego (30 próbek ze złoża Bogdanka i złoża Chełm) z formacji Lublina, najbardziej węglonośnej i najlepiej pod względem górniczym rozpoznanej części Lubelskiego Zagłębia Węglowego (LZW). Stwierdzono dużą zawartość fosforu w węglu (1375 g/Mg) i  $P_2O_5$  w popiele węgla (2,267 % wag.). Zawartość fosforu w węglu i w popiele węgla z pokładu 385 i 391 w rejonie kopalni Lubelski Węgiel Bogdanka i w obszarze z nią sąsiadującym od południowo-wschodniej strony jest najwyższa (max. 2,644% w węglu i 6,055%  $P_2O_5$  w popiele węgla). Wykazano decydujący wpływ materii mineralnej na zawartość fosforu w węglu z formacji Lublina i w popiele węgla. Przy czym minerały fosforanowe (prawdopodobnie apatyt i crandallit), obecne w agregatach kaolinitu w tonsteinach, zawierają najwięcej fosforu i mają największy wpływ na średnią zawartość fosforu w węglu z pokładów 382, 385, 387 i 391. Drugorzędnym źródłem fosforu w węglu wymienionych pokładów oraz głównym źródłem fosforu w węglu z pokładów niezawierających materii mineralnej pochodzenia piroklastycznego (378, 389, 394) są prawdopodobnie minerały



ilaste, które zaabsorbowały związki fosforu pochodzące z materii organicznej, uwolnione w czasie uwęglania substancji roślinnej. Bogate w fosfor popioły pochodzące ze spalania węgla z formacji Lublina wydają się być ekologicznie korzystne dla środowiska i jednocześnie przydatne do poprawy jakości gleb. Ze względu na niski stopień uwęglania i dużą zawartość fosforu w węglu, węgiel ten jest mało przydatny do koksowania.

Słowa kluczowe: fosfor, pokłady węgla, Lubelskie Zagłębie Węglowe

