

<https://doi.org/10.48047/AFJBS.6.14.2024.6891-6903>



African Journal of Biological Sciences

Journal homepage: <http://www.afjbs.com>



Research Paper

Open Access

THE ELIMINATION OF HEAVY METALS BY ADSORPTION USING WASTE MATERIAL AS AN ADSORBENT IN INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS

Madhu Sudan¹, Shiwali Bisht², Anand Kumar Singh³, Ajay Kumar⁴, Vikas Gupta⁵, Deep Narayan Maurya⁶, Shama Parveen⁷, Sirajuddin⁸

¹Department of Chemistry, R.S.M. Degree College Dhampur, 246761, Uttar Pradesh India

²Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Science, Motherhood University, District- Haridwar, 247661 Uttarakhand, (India)

³Department of Chemistry, Babu Sundar Singh Institute of Technology and Management Lucknow, 227309, Uttar Pradesh India

⁴Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Uttaranchal University, Dehradun, 248007, Uttarakhand, India

⁵Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Motherhood University, District- Haridwar, 247661 Uttarakhand, (India)

⁶Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, D. N. (P.G.) College Meerut, 250002, Uttar Pradesh India

⁷Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Motherhood University, District- Haridwar, 247661 Uttarakhand, (India)

⁸Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, IFTM University, Moradabad, 244102, Uttar Pradesh India

Corresponding author _ Shamahussainktw@gmail.com

Volume 6, Issue 14, Aug 2024

Received: 15 June 2024

Accepted: 25 July 2024

Published: 15 Aug 2024

doi: [10.48047/AFJBS.6.14.2024.6891-6903](https://doi.org/10.48047/AFJBS.6.14.2024.6891-6903)

ABSTRACT

Industrial wastewater is the aqueous removal of chemicals that have been dissolved or suspended in water. The phrase "industrial wastewater" refers to this process specifically. During the usage of water in a commercial production process or during the cleaning activities that are related with that process, this happens the majority of the time. The wastewaters that are produced as a byproduct of industrial operations often include a considerable quantity of dangerous metal ions, most notably copper, and together they pose a substantial risk to the environment as well as to the people who live on this planet. The primary objective of this study is to explore the viability of using agricultural waste such as rice husk, wheat husk and straw, pigeon pea husk and straw, and soybean husk and straw as an inexpensive an adsorption to facilitate the purification of water and waste from industry that contain copper and other metal ions. A wide variety of heavy metals can be effectively removed from the waste water and water by using composite adsorbent.

Keyword: wastewater, Copper, Heavy metal

INTRODUCTION

Heavy metals have been released into the environment in excess due to the consequences of growing cities and industrialization. This has caused significant concern on a global level. Unlike organic contaminants, a great deal of which are vulnerable to degradation by biological processes, heavy metal ions do not break down into innocuous byproducts during their breakdown. The existence of these ions is a major cause for concern because heavy metal ions are dangerous to a variety of animals and plants. The presence of heavy metals can come from the watery wastes of many different types of businesses, including those that deal with alloy industries, storage battery sectors, mining, tanneries, exchanger manufacturing, smelting, and copper plating. The removal of contaminants from waste water can be accomplished through a variety of treatment techniques. These techniques include the process of precipitation the exchange of ions, filtering through membranes, absorption, and co-precipitation/adsorption. Empirical studies on the treatment of heavy metal-containing wastewater have shown that renewal adsorption is a very successful method for removing metals such as lead from wastewater streams. In addition, activated carbon has frequently been utilized as an adsorbent in a variety of applications. However, despite the fact that activated carbon is utilized extensively in the water and wastewater treatment industries, it is still a material that is regarded to be somewhat relatively expensive.

AGRICULTURAL WASTE ADSORBENTS

India and other developing nations could benefit from using agricultural and industrial garbage as eco-friendly adsorbents. Utilizing these substances as waste the adsorb could reduce waste disposal expenses and provide an alternative for utilized carbon. Many studies on the adsorption of hazardous material from wastewater from businesses utilizing crop residue and industrial leftovers have been carried out during the past 20 years. Utilizing inexpensive adsorbents to treat industrial wastewater has been supported by a number of researches.

The removal of pollutants from wastewater and the creation of activated carbon from agricultural wastes both result in the transformation of waste into a precious and pricey commodity. It is possible that the environmental effect might be reduced by using these waste products to extract contaminants from wastewaters from industrial processes. In order to absorb heavy metal ions, sugarcane bag asses that had been chemically treated were utilized. There is

evidence that bag asses adsorbents are also capable of absorbing phenol. A demonstration of the adaptability of agricultural wastes is the fact that they are able to absorb both inorganic and organic contaminants. Investigations have been conducted into the viability of using agricultural adsorbents, including sawdust, peanut shells, chicken litter, coffee husk, rice husk, cow dung, soybean hull, and almond hull. Numerous investigations have shown that the addition of citric acid enhanced the sorption of Cu^{2+} ions by starch, cellulose fiber, crushed corn cobs, and maize fiber. Marshall et al. (2000) reported that at a pH of 4.8, the addition of 0.6 M citric acid to barley hulls, walnut shells, almond hulls, and seeds of cotton improved heavy metal sorption. Each and every metal ion has an adsorption capacity of greater than 1.0 mg/g.

ZEOLITES

In addition to water, the mineral gemstones include cations that are interchangeable of alkaline and basic earth metals (Na, K, Ca, and Mg). Metal ions and molecules of water are interconnected inside the porous structure. Zeolites have several useful properties, including mechanical and thermal stability, excellent ion exchange capacity, and size selective adsorption. Natural or synthesized zeolites are also possible. Their long history of use includes adsorption, chemical screening, and water softening. Because zeolites are unstable at high pH, chemicals are needed to lower the pH, which adds to the expense of this method. Seawater is released as zeolite packed beds regenerate.

SILICA GEL

Making an alkali silicate solution with a pH below ten yields silica gel, a competent support that is non toxic, inert, and safe to use. The gel is subsequently formed by decreasing the solubility of the silica. When the silica starts to gel, its cells get stuck in a transparent gel that is actually an intricate structure of SiO_2 . The inorganic synthetic polymeric matrix known as porous silica gel is utilized in sol-gel to entrap cells. The high number of reactive sites in silica gel allows for the immobilization of many organic molecules, which in turn enhances the sorption of metal ions.

ACTIVATED

Alumina Porous and very adsorptive activated alumina filter media is made from aluminum ore by a process of treatment. Granulated aluminum oxide is another name for it. When combined with fluoride, arsenic and selenium are both eliminated by activated alumina. Cleaning the

medium with alum or acid on a regular basis is necessary for good functioning. Activated alumina is a great adsorbent for uses right at the source. The main disadvantage of per oxidizing pollutants, such as arsenates, prior to adsorption is activated alumina. The optimal pH for adsorption is low. To reduce the amount of other contaminants that pose a threat to human health, other treatment techniques are required.

OBJECTIVE

1. Examine heavy metals and wastewater from industrial sources.
2. Research Adsorbent-Based Heavy Metal Elimination from Agricultural Wastewater.

METHOD

An examination of the adsorption of ions containing heavy metals by inexpensive adsorbents was conducted using various kinetic and isothermal methods. The pH, the concentration of heavy metals, the mixing speed, and the amount of adsorbent that was used were some of the aspects that were taken into consideration. In addition, the ideal removal condition was determined for each and every metal ion studied. Fly ash and rice husk are two examples of affordable adsorbents that are classified according to their primary functions, physical qualities, chemical characterization, and primary sources, as outlined in Table 1.

RESULT

HEAVY METALS AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE WATER

Heavy metals are any metals that have a high specific gravity, a high density, or a big atomic weight. Heavy metals are also known as heavy metals. Several metals are heavy including lead, cadmium, mercury, and cobalt, is among the substances that may be present in industrial wastewater. It is essential to remove metals such as lead from effluent since they are incapable of biodegrading and are hazardous to aquatic creatures even in small concentrations.

HEAVY METALS SOURCES AND TOXICITY

According to the chemical forms that various metals adopt, they have distinct toxicity profiles, sometimes referred to as harmful profiles. Heavy metals can be acquired from a wide range of sources, such as extraction from natural sources, mining, smelting, usage in agrochemicals and sewage sludge applications, and the exploitation of animal manure. Ingestion and inhalation of heavy metals, whether through food, drink, fumes, or dust, can both have

negative effects on human health. Inhalation of heavy metals can also be harmful. There are many different kinds of compounds that include heavy metals. Table 1, which may be made accessible here, provides an overview of the most hazardous heavy metals and the consequences that they have on human health.

Table 1: The majority of hazardous heavy metals' sources and their effects on health

SR. NO.	HEAVY METAL	SOURCE	IMPACT
1	Mercury (Hg)	finds its way into the environment by the leaching of soil caused by coal combustion, acid rain, or trash from industry, homes, and mines	finds its way into the environment by the leaching of soil caused by coal combustion, acid rain, or trash from industry, homes, and mines
2	Lead (Pb)	Some of the sources are paint, manufacturing wastes, ash from incinerators, water from lead pipes, the solder, and exhaust from motor vehicles.	Damages the kidneys, neurological system, capacity to learn, protein synthesis capacity, nerve, and blood cell count.
3	Cadmium (Cd)	Along with sewage, other sources come from the mining, plastics, and electroplating businesses.	Results in renal disease.
4	Arsenic (As)	Is released into the surroundings by the mining sector, wood preservatives that and pesticides.	Harm to the liver, eyes, and skin is caused. May potentially result in cancer.

5	Antimony (Sb)	Is introduced into the environment by the extracting and ore processing sectors.	Might aggravate respiratory, skin, and eye irritations. It can also result in cardiac issues, stomach discomfort, diarrhea, nausea, and ulcers in the stomach.
6	Chromium (Cr)	Tobacco smoke, polluted earth fill, chemical processing facility effluents, and the cement industry are some of the sources.	May Lead To Lung Cancer And Arterial Fibrosis.

TECHNIQUES FOR REMOVING HEAVY METALS FROM TREATMENT

Many techniques, including ion exchange processes chemical precipitation, flotation, electrical accumulation, a process known as and others, are used in the manufacturing industry to remove heavy metals using a range of processes. Every one of these commercially used procedures is not only costly, but it can also generate a substantial amount of sludge that requires additional processing. As to Barakat (2011), one of the novel techniques being contemplated for the remediation of wastewater containing diverse forms of harmful metals is the adsorption method.

ADSORPTION

In the process of the process of a molecules, ions, and atoms of dissolved solids from a liquid stick to the surface of a solid (Babel et al., 2003). We call this process adsorption. In other terms, it is a mass transfer process whereby a liquid dissolves a solid and deposits the dissolved solid on its outermost layer as a result of the physical or chemical interaction.

This can happen either when the liquid and the solid come into touch with one other. When selecting an adsorbent for the purpose of treating wastewater, the most important aspects of this approach to take into consideration are the adsorbent's technical appropriateness as well as its cost-effectiveness on the part of the purchaser. Natural materials, waste from industrial operations, waste from agricultural techniques, Waste waste from biological operations are the four distinct classifications that can be applied to the wide variety of absorbing materials that are on the market. Sorbents come in an enormous variety of forms.

ADSORPTION ON NATURAL MATERIALS

As a consequence of the study that was carried out by a large number of experts, most people agree that limestone is a naturally occurring geological substance that works well and can be used to detoxify heavy metal-contaminated water. On the other hand, the efficacy of limestone in removing metals that has been recorded appears to be lower than what was anticipated or desired for intense remediation operations. According to Sdiri et al. (2012), this is especially true when taking into consideration the fundamental components that have an effect on sorption processes. Finding out how mechanically milling organic Serbian clay affects the removal of contaminants from a water-based solution was the aim of the 2013 study conducted by Djukic and colleagues.

The results of this experiment indicate that a complete adsorption of cadmium and lead was achieved, which is equivalent to about 98% of the concentration that was initially present. Nevertheless, only 81% of the original quantity of cadmium and nickel was adsorbed. This is a significant difference. Shavandi et al. (2012) found that it was able to remove more than fifty percent of zinc (II) and manganese(II) as well as around sixty percent of iron (III) from the effluent of palm oil mills by utilizing natural zeolite. This was something that was discovered by the researchers. The removal of heavy metals by the utilization of natural materials is the responsibility of a wide number of researchers; some of these researchers are included in Table 2 below:

Table 2 shows the adsorption capabilities of natural substances modified to remove heavy metals.

Adsorbent	Removal capacity in %	References
-----------	-----------------------	------------

	Pb²⁺	Cd²⁺	Zn²⁺	Cu²⁺	Cr⁶⁺	Ni²⁺	
Digested raw bark (RB)	—	8	—	28	4	12	Mehmet Emin Argun et. al., (2008).
Zeolite A	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.9	—	99.8	Tarek S. Jamil et. al., (2010).
Zeolite X	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.9	—	99.8	Tarek S. Jamil et. al., (2010).
Micro waved olive stone activated carbon	—	96.2	—	—	—	—	Tamer M. Allambie et. al., (2013).

ADSORPTION IN REGARD TO INDUSTRIAL GARBAGE

In place of more costly traditional techniques, several researchers are thinking about using low-cost adsorbents generated from industrial waste to extract the ions of heavy metals from wastewater. Red dirt, lignin, bagasse from sugar cane, and sugar beet slurry, fly ash, waste slurry, sugar furnace slag, and sugar cane are some examples of products that might be beneficial. In a study conducted by Bayat (2002), two varieties of Turkish fly ash, Afsin Elbistan and Seyitomer, were evaluated for their capacity to extract metals from water. The results showed that Afsin Elbistan, the high-calcium fly ash, was as effective as activated carbon as a metal adsorbent.

There are five different metallic ions that Hoeffler and colleagues (2000) looked at removing: Cu²⁺, Ni²⁺, Zn²⁺, Cd²⁺, and Pb²⁺. The effectiveness of ion removal was assessed by four factors: the kind of sorbent, fluid temperature, fly ash to cement mass ratio, and sorbent concentration. The investigators found that when the mixture's heat was kept at 66 °C and the quantity of adsorbent ratio was 0.66, the combination of 5% fly ash and lime, with a percentage of about 122 g/L, improved both retention and adsorption. In order to find out if activated carbon

made from jatropha husks used in agro industrial solid waste can remove harmful anions, dyes, Namasivayam et al. (2007) conducted a study on heavy metals and organic chemicals detected in water.

The study found that 95% of the nickel and 61% of the chromium could be removed from the starting concentration of the intravenous (IV) solution. The feasibility of removing heavy metals from wastewater using industrial waste has been the subject of several investigations. As stated in Table 3, the following categories of industrial waste were subjected to removal efficiency tests:

Table 3: Industrial waste-induced heavy metal adsorption

Adsorbent	Removal capacity %						References
	Pb ²⁺	Cd ²⁺	Zn ²⁺	Cu ²⁺	Cr ⁶⁺	Ni ²⁺	
Lime Mud	96	—	99	99	93	—	Suthipong Sthiannopkao et. al., (2009)
Waste rubber tire	96	—	—	—	—	87	Vinod K. Gupta et. al., (2012)
saline slags generated during secondary aluminum melting processes	5.45	0.82	1.03	0.63	—	—	A.Gil et.al., (2014)
Waste printed circuit boards	—	60	—	—	—	—	Meng Xu et. al., (2014)

ADSORPTION ON BIOLOGICAL AND AGRICULTURAL WASTE

Metals that come from wastewater from manufacturing processes may be extracted using farm byproducts, a technique that has recently attracted a lot of attention (Barakat., 2011). Byproducts of farming are studied in adsorption experiments. Through the process of bio-sorption, agricultural waste products can be used to bio remediate heavy metal ions. Certain types of bio energy are able to actively accumulate and bind pollutants onto their cell wall through a natural physiochemical process called bio adsorption.

Accordance with Wang et al. (2009) findings. Numerous experts believe that this phenomenon is the key to a more cost-effective technique for cleaning up contaminated industrial effluent by removing hazardous heavy metals. This is because this phenomenon holds the key to the key. In the research that was carried out by Schiewer and colleagues (2008), the adsorption capacities of a number of different fruit peels were investigated. When compared to other fruits such as oranges, lemons, apples, and so on, the researchers discovered that grape skin had the highest capacity to absorb cadmium metals that were present in the environment. Compared to sawdust, rice husk has a higher capacity for sorbing heavy metals as Pb^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , and Ni^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , Zn^{2+} according to studies and comparisons carried out by Asadi et al. (2008). This is because rice hull contains a silica functional group and has a large surface area. We looked at the bio adsorption capabilities of rutin resin (41.6 mg/g) and raw rutin (26.3 mg/g) by Fathy et al. (2015) as potential novel bio adsorbents for chromium (VI), as well as the desorption of chromium from these materials.

The main functionalizations added to the polymer to achieve the removal of chromites from storm water were the carboxyl, hydroxyl and carbonyl groups, respectively. To eliminate dangerous heavy metal ions from water, Singh et al. (2015) proposed using chemically enhanced agricultural waste (okra biomass). The waste material showed a high capacity for adsorbing lead (Pb^{2+}) at 273.97 mg/g, cadmium (Cd^{2+}) at 121.51 mg/g, copper (Cu^{2+}) at 72.72 mg/g, and zinc (Zn^{2+}) at 57.11 mg/g.

Sawdust (*Phragmites australis*), seaweed (*Ascophyllum nodosum*), and the root of the reed plant (*Phragmites australis*) were investigated as three affordable bio adsorbents. Saw dust shown a great capacity for adsorbing lead, while seaweed provided the best capacity for adsorbing cadmium (Akunwa et al., 2014). It is reliant on the functional groups that are connected to bio sorbents as to the degree to which they are able to extract heavy metals from

solutions. Silica groups, for instance, have a greater affinity for copper, zinc, and cadmium, while hydroxyl groups have a stronger affinity for chromium, and nitro groups more so for lead.

CONCLUSIONS

The adsorption capacity of produced adsorbents varies depending on the heavy metals that are being concentrated. When compared to rice husk and wheat husk, the adsorbents that are derived from pigeon pea husk agricultural waste are more effective. It has also been investigated that the removal effectiveness of adsorbents made from rice husk reduces in order to remove lead, zinc, and copper metal ions. The adsorption is influenced by temperature and pH levels. The ability of ground rice husk for eliminating metals increases with an increase in the pH of the water solution. In spite of the fact that the adsorption capacity has been improved as a result of the modification, it is necessary to take into account the cost of the components that were used and the technique of modification in order to manufacture adsorbents that are inexpensive. It is necessary to make further efforts in order to produce effective composite adsorbents in order to remove a greater quantity of hazardous drinking water and waste water containing heavy metals.

REFERENCES

1. Bernard E., Jimoh A. and Onigiri J.O, (2013) Heavy metals removal from industrial wastewater by activated carbon prepared from coconut shell, *Research Journal of Chemical Sciences* 3 (8): 3 – 9.
2. Fenglian Fu, Qi Wang, (2011) Removal of heavy metal ions from wastewaters: A review, *Journal of Environmental Management* 92(3): 407 – 418.
3. Lars Jarup, (2003) Hazards of heavy metal contamination, *British Medical Bulletin*, 68 (1): 167-182.
4. M.A. Barakat, (2011) New trends in removing heavy metals from industrial wastewater, *Arabian Journal of Chemistry* 4 : 361–377.
5. Sandhya Babel, Tonni Agustiono Kurniawan, (2003) Low-cost adsorbents for heavy metals uptake from contaminated water: a review, *Journal of Hazardous Materials* B97: 219–243
6. Ali Sdiri, Teruo Higashi, Fakher Jamoussi, Samir Bouaziz, (2012) Effects of impurities on the removal of heavy metals by natural limestones in aqueous systems, *Journal of Environmental Management* 93 (1) : 245 – 253.

7. Andjelka Djukic, Uros Jovanovic, Tamara Tuvic, Velibor Andric, Jasmina Grbovi, Novakovic, Nenad Ivanovic, Ljiljana Matovic, (2013) The potential of ball-milled Serbian natural clay for removal of heavy metal contaminants from wastewaters: Simultaneous sorption of Ni, Cr, Cd and Pb ions, *Ceramics International* 39(6) : 7173–7178.
8. M.A. Shavandi, Z. Haddadian, M.H.S. Ismail, N. Abdullah, Z.Z. Abidin, (2012) Removal of Fe(III), Mn(II) and Zn(II) from palm oil mill effluent (POME) by natural zeolite, *Journal of the Taiwan Institute of Chemical Engineers* 43 (5) : 750 – 759.
9. Mehmet Emin Argun, Sukru Dursun, (2008) a new approach to modification of natural adsorbent for heavy metal adsorption, *Bioresource Technology* 99 (7): 2516 – 2527.
10. Tarek S. Jamil, Hanan S. Ibrahim, I.H. Abd El-Maksoud, S.T. El-Wakeel, (2010) Application of zeolite prepared from Egyptian kaolin for removal of heavy metals: I. Optimum conditions, *Desalination* 258 : 34–40
11. Tamer M. Alslaibi, Ismail Abustan, Mohd Azmier Ahmad, Ahmad Abu Foul, (2013) Cadmium removal from aqueous solution using microwaved olive stone activated carbon, *Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering* 1(3): 589-599
12. Belgin Bayat, (2002) Comparative study of adsorption properties of Turkish fly ashes I. The case of nickel(II), copper(II) and zinc(II), *Journal of Hazardous Materials B95* : 251–273
13. P. Ricou-Hoeffer, I. Lecuyer and P. Le Cloirec, (2000) Experimental design methodology applied to adsorption of metallic ions onto fly ash, *Water Research* 35(4): 965 – 976.
14. C. Namasivayam, D. Sangeetha, R. Gunasekaran, (2007) Removal of anions, heavy metals, organics and dyes from water by adsorption onto a new activated carbon from *Jatropha* husk, an Agro-Industrial solid waste, *Process Safety and Environmental Protection* 85(2) : 181 – 184
15. Suthipong Sthiannopkao, Siranee Sreesai, (2009) Utilization of pulp and paper industrial wastes to remove heavy metals from metal finishing wastewater, *Journal of Environmental Management* 90(11) : 3283-3289.

16. Vinod K. Gupta, M.R. Ganjali, Arunima Nayak, B. Bhushan Shilpi Agarwal, (2012) Enhanced heavy metals removal and recovery by mesoporous adsorbent prepared from waste rubber tire, *Chemical Engineering Journal* 197 : 330–342
17. A. Gil, S. Albeniz, S.A. Korili, (2014) Valorization of the saline slags generated during secondary aluminium melting processes as adsorbents for the removal of heavy metal ions from aqueous solutions, *Chemical Engineering Journal* 251 : 43–50
18. Meng Xu, Pejman Hadi, Guohua Chen, Gordon McKay, (2014) Removal of cadmium ions from wastewater using innovative electronic waste-derived material, *Journal of Hazardous Materials* 273 : 118 – 123
19. Jianlong Wang, Can Chen, (2009) Biosorbents for heavy metals removal and their future, *Biotechnology Advances* 27(2) : 192 – 226.
20. Silke Schiewer, Santosh B. Patil, (2008) Pectin-rich fruit wastes as biosorbents for heavy metal removal: Equilibrium and kinetics, *Bioresource Technology* 99 (6) : 1896 -1903.