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Removal of Heavy Metals from Water by Adsorption Method using Clam Shells

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Abstract

Study aims to investigate effectiveness of clam shells as an adsorbent to remove mercury from water. Adsorption is a potential approach for removing heavy metals that have harmful effects on both aquatic system and humans. The goal of this work is to determine the efficiency of these shells in removing mercury from synthetic wastewater. Scanning electron microscope and transmission electron microscope used to determine surface morphologies and sizes. Size ranged from 20 to 60 nanometers. The mechanism of interaction between the shells and Hg2+ was studied using a UV-Visible spectrometer. Results of experiments revealed that shell's removal efficiency was 90% when mixed with a pH 6 or less.

Keywords: Adsorption, Mercury, Clam shell, UV-Visible Spectrophotometer.

1. Introduction

Mercury cycle is a process that occurs naturally in Earth's crust and its various forms on planet's surface. Health hazard refers to chemicals that are toxic or highly toxic and can cause adverse effects. Pirrone and colleagues (Pirrone et al., 1996) From 1990 to 1995, this figure was somewhat lower than predicted value of 2217. In late twentieth century, amount of mercury released into atmosphere from natural and re-emitted sources was estimated to be between 1500 and 2500 metric tonnes per year (Nriagu, 1989; Nriagu, 1990). Barbosa and Soares de Almeida (2001); Barbosa and Soare Mercury remains in environment for a long time. As a result, efficient remedial approaches for lowering mercury levels in substantially mercury-polluted aquatic systems are required. Active remedial methods for polluted silt in aquatic systems include capping and dredging. Dredging is a technique for restoring normal water circulation and removing benthic silt.

Hosokawa Dredging appears to be an efficient treatment for mercury-polluted systems. Mercury levels in deposited sediment in Minamata Bay, Japan, were as high as 600 mg/kg (Hosokawa, 1993). Dredging project started in 1977 and finished in 1990. Data from monitoring reveals that meticulous dredging did not have a substantial negative influence on ecosystem due to sediment resuspension.

2. Aim and Background

• To investigate "Removal of Mercury from Synthetic Waste Water Using Clam Shell Nanoparticles Adsorption Method."

• Using SEM and TEM characterisation tests, assess surface shape and size of nanoparticles.

• Using batch tests, determine efficacy of produced nanoparticles as an adsorbent and investigate process control factors such as contact duration, adsorbent dose, solution pH, adsorbate concentration, and agitation speed.

Ennore Creek has a long history of influencing lives of those who live around it. Magnitude of environmental and health risk connected with it determined by early field research and contact with local populace. Severity of Ennore Creek's ecological deterioration may have an impact on health and living situations of area's stakeholders. Several occurrences and research have revealed pollution has resulted in fish deaths and health risks among Ennore's fishermen. During early research, many respondents believed severely polluted Ennore Creek taints quality of fishing items. Some people were concerned about ability of fish to migrate over belt. There have been encroachments for new structures that might supplant traditional fishermen as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 Location of study Area

3. Methodology

Adsorption of molecules or particles on a surface is referred as adsorption. Although all solid stuff has a surface, some are more effective than others. Adsorbing molecules are mostly organic and might be natural or manufactured. Viruses, bacteria, cysts and algae are examples of particles. Adsorption is process of collecting in solution chemicals on a suitable surface. Adsorption is a mass transfer process in which a liquid phase ingredient is transferred to solid phase. At interface, adsorbate is material extracted from liquid phase. Adsorbent is solid, liquid or gaseous phase that adsorbate adheres to.

3.1 Procedure - removal of mercury from water by adsorption method

To make a stock solution of Mercuric Chloride solution with concentration of 1000 ppm by dissolving 5 grams of Mercury Chloride in distilled water, then adding sodium hydroxide pellets to increase basic nature of distilled water. Using dilution formula X1Y1=X2Y2, mercury chloride solutions of various concentrations (20 ppm, 40 ppm, 60 ppm, 80 ppm and 100 ppm) are created. Following preparation of several solutions, absorbance of each is determined using an ultra violet spectrophotometer with a wave length of 375nm.Results are jotted down on a piece of paper. Each conical flask is filled with 0.50gms of powdered clam seashell and coated with non-adsorbent cotton. Five conical flasks are placed in an orbital shaker, which spins at speed of 150 to 200 rpm for 10 to 30 minutes before conical flasks are removed. After filtering, absorbance value of each solution is examined. Following that, discovered Mercury may be eliminated by utilising powdered clam shells.

Technique aims to use adsorption method to synthesise carbonaceous nanoparticles. SEM and TEM characterisation techniques were used to assess surface shape and size of clam shell particles. Batch studies used to assess efficacy of produced nanoparticles as adsorbent, as well as to investigate process control factors such as contact duration, adsorbent dose, solution pH, adsorbate concentration and agitation speed. Table 1 lists specifics of sample acquired in field.

S.No	Test Name	S 1	S2	S 3	S4	S5	S6	S 7	S 8	S 9	S10	S11	S12
1	PH	7.5	7	7.5	7	7	7	7	6.5	7	7	7.5	7
2	Alkalinity	200	140	220	250	240	350	180	140	160	10	220	90
3	COD (mg/L)	520	1240	1120	1720	1640	1920	2080	2000	1320	1000	800	480
4	Fluoride (mg/L)	2	0.5	1	0	0.5	0	0	1	1	0.5	1	0.5
5	Iron (ppb)	0	0.3	2	3	2	1	2	2	0.3	0.3	2	2
6	Ammonia	1	2	1	5	5	5	1	1	1	2	1	0.5
7	Nitrite (mg/L)	1	1	0.5	0.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	0.5	0.5
8	Phosphate (mmol/L)	0	1	2	3	1	2	2	1	0.5	1	2	0.5
9	Residual chlorine (mg/L)	0	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.2	0

Table 1 Sample details collected in the field

4. Results and Discussion

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4.1 Effect of contact time

One of most significant elements in design of cost-effective waste water treatment system is equilibrium time as mentioned in Figure2. In a 50ml mercury solution at concentration of 50mg/L, 0.30g of Clam shell nanoparticles were added. Using ultra violet spectrophotometer, residual Mercury content in solution measured.

contact time was changed from 10 to 120 minutes in 10-minute intervals. At contact period of 10 minutes, highest removal effectiveness was reported to be 90%. At this optimum contact time, more batch investigations were conducted. trial lasted between 0 and 120 minutes. There was steady progressive drop after 10 minutes. From this experiment, optimum contact duration was determined to be 10 minutes which shown in Table 2. and this number was taken into consideration going forward.

S.N o	Time (Mins)	PH values	Initial concentration (mg/l)	Adsorbent Value(g)	RPM	Final concentration	Efficiency
1	10	8	50	0.3	100	7	86
2	20	8	50	0.3	100	9	82
3	30	8	50	0.3	100	11	78
4	40	8	50	0.3	100	13	74
5	50	8	50	0.3	100	15	70
6	60	8	50	0.3	100	16	68
7	70	8	50	0.3	100	18	64
8	80	8	50	0.3	100	19	62
9	90	8	50	0.3	100	16	68
10	100	8	50	0.3	100	14	72
11	110	8	50	0.3	100	13	74
12	120	8	50	0.3	100	12	76

Table 2. Optimum contact duration



Figure 2: Effect of contact time Vs Time

4.2 Effect of adsorbent dosage

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Size and quantity of adsorbent, which must be tuned, is one of most crucial criteria for quick and effective metal removal. Capacity of an adsorbent for a given starting concentration of Mercury solution is determined by adsorbent dosage, which is essential parameter in adsorption research as shown in Table 3.

Mercury solution was 50ml in volume. removal effectiveness seen to progressively drop in beginning owing to availability of active sites, and then to slightly rise over range of 0.05-0.50g. Best dosage was discovered to be 0.45g. contact time was set to ten minutes as referred in Figure 3.

Table .	3. E	Effect	of	adsorbent	Dosage	0.45(g)
10010	·· •	JJ 001	~ <u>j</u>	ciclobillociti	Dobage	0.12(8)

S.No	Time	PH values	Initial concentration	Absorbent (g)	RPM	Final concentration	Efficiency
			Mg/l			e concentration	
1	10	8	50	0.05	100	26	48
2	10	8	50	0.10	100	22	56
3	10	8	50	0.15	100	20	60
4	10	8	50	0.2	100	17	66
5	10	8	50	0.25	100	15	70
6	10	8	50	0.3	100	13	74
7	10	8	50	0.35	100	11	78
8	10	8	50	0.4	100	10	80
9	10	8	50	0.45	100	8	84
10	10	8	50	0.5	100	7	86



Figure 3. Effect of Absorbance dosage

4.3 Effect of Ph value

pH range in plating industry effluent is frequently rather large. As a result, pH of system is crucial in plating waste treatment. aqueous chemistry and surface bonding sites of adsorbents are both affected by pH as shown in Table 4. concentration of effluents discharged by companies will vary, similar to pH.

Experiment was conducted out with a dose of 0.45g and an optimal contact duration of 10 minutes. sample was agitated at a speed of 100rpm. This effect is explained by fact that when pH rises, more negatively charged surfaces become accessible, allowing for higher metal absorption. optimal dosage was discovered to be 8 and beginning concentration to be 50mg/l based on experimental findings which is mentioned in Figure 4.

Table 4. Effect of PH

C1 M		PH	Initial	Adsorbent	RPM	Final	Efficiency
SI.N	Time	values	concentration	(g)		concentratio	
0						n	
1	10	1	50	0.45	100	24	52
2	10	2	50	0.45	100	22	56
3	10	3	50	0.45	100	21	58
4	10	4	50	0.45	100	18	64
5	10	5	50	0.45	100	12	76
6	10	6	50	0.45	100	14	72
7	10	7	50	0.45	100	15	70
8	10	8	50	0.45	100	17	66
9	10	9	50	0.45	100	19	62
10	10	10	50	0.45	100	21	64
11	10	11	50	0.45	100	22	58
12	10	12	50	0.45	100	26	48
13	10	13	50	0.45	100	29	42
14	10	14	50	0.45	100	32	36



Figure 4. Effect of PH value

4.4 Effect of concentration of mercury

• Effect of starting concentration was investigated at concentrations ranging from 10 to 100 mg/L. With a dose of 0.45g and a pH of 8, experiment was carried out for an optimal contact time of 10 minutes as mentioned in Table 5.

• Optimal values for duration of relationship, adsorbent dose, and pH of aqueous solution were obtained from earlier tests, and remaining agitation speed candidate value was kept constant. optimal concentration was discovered to be 50mg/l based on experimental findings mentioned in Figure 5.

Table 5. Effect of concentration of mercur
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Sl.No	Time (mins)	PH value	Quantity of solution (ml)	Initial concentratio n (mg/l)	Concentration of Adsorbent (g)	RPM	Final concentration	Efficienc y
1	10	8	50	10	0.45	100	30	50
2	10	8	50	20	0.45	100	27	46
3	10	8	50	30	0.45	100	23	54
4	10	8	50	40	0.45	100	17	66
5	10	8	50	50	0.45	100	10	80
6	10	8	50	60	0.45	100	18	64
7	10	8	50	70	0.45	100	20	60
8	10	8	50	80	0.45	100	24	56
9	10	8	50	90	0.45	100	28	44
10	10	8	50	100	0.45	100	30	40



Figure 5. Effect of Concentration of mercury

4.5 Effect of speed of agitation

One of most critical design characteristics for an adsorption system is speed. For optimal removal, rate of interaction between adsorbent and adsorbate is an essential regulating parameter. Because it shows degree and rate of interaction between adsorbent and adsorbate, agitation speed is a significant design parameter in terms of removal efficiency as shown in Table 6.

Experiment was conducted at a speed of roughly 50-200rpm as shown in Figure 6. Other optimum parameter values include an adsorbent dose of 0.45g, a contact period of 10 minutes, a pH value of 8, and a starting lead concentration of 50mg/l. ideal speed was discovered to be 200 rpm as a result of investigation as mentioned in Table 7.

Table 6. Agitation speed

S.No	Time (mins)	PH values	Initial concentratio n (mg/l)	Concentration of Adsorbent (g)	RPM	Final concentration	Efficiency
1	10	8	50	0.45	50	17	66
2	10	8	50	0.45	100	13	74
3	10	8	50	0.45	150	4	92
4	10	8	50	0.45	200	9	82



Figure 6. Effect of speed of Agitation

Table 7. Optimization of process of batch study parameters for mercury removal using carbonaceous nanoparticles

Sl.No	Parameters	Experimental Range	Optimized Value
1	Contact time	0-120 minutes	10 minutes
2	Dosage of Adsorbent (carbonaceous nanoparticles)	0.05-0.50g	0.40g
3	pH of Mercury Solution	1-14	8
4	Concentration of Mercury in solution	10-100mg/l	50mg/l
5	Agitation Speed	50-200rpm	200 rpm

5. Conclusion

- Discovered that clam shell nanoparticles, i.e. powdered clam seashells, are an excellent adsorbent in our experiment. adsorption of nickel ions was employed to remove Mercury ions from solution using clam shell nanoparticles made using Top-Down approach technique.
- Using nano-sized carbonaceous nanoparticles, mercury may be removed. When working with aqueous Mercury solution, absorptivity of flocs assessed by UV-Spectrophotometer reveals that procedure is efficient.
- Contact time, adsorbent dose, pH of solution, starting concentration of adsorbate, and agitation speed were all important operational factors in batch tests.

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