

# Development of a New Eco-Friendly Copolymer Based on Chitosan for Enhanced Removal of Pb and Cd from Water

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**Table S1.** Isotherm models used on CHIT-PAAA adsorption data

Isotherm Models	Nonlinear Forms	Linear Forms	References
Langmuir	$q_e = \frac{q_{\max} \cdot K_L \cdot C_e}{1 + K_L \cdot C_e}$	$\frac{C_e}{q_e} = \frac{C_e}{q_{\max}} + \frac{1}{K_L \cdot q_{\max}}$	[1]
Freundlich	$q_e = K_F \cdot C_e^{1/n}$	$\ln q_e = \ln K_F + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \ln C_e$	[2]
Dubinin-Radushkevich	$q_e = q_s \cdot \exp(-K_{DR} \cdot \varepsilon^2)$	$\ln q_e = \ln q_s - K_{DR} \cdot \varepsilon^2$	[3]
Temkin	$q_e = \frac{R \cdot T}{K_T} \cdot \ln A_T \cdot C_e$	$q_e = \frac{R \cdot T}{K_T} \cdot \ln A_T + \frac{R \cdot T}{K_T} \cdot \ln C_e$	[4]
Redlich-Peterson	$q_e = \frac{K_R \cdot C_e}{1 + \alpha_R \cdot C_e^g}$	$\ln\left(\frac{C_e}{q_e}\right) = \alpha_R \cdot \ln C_e + \ln K_R$	[5]
Sips	$q_e = \frac{q_{\max} \cdot K_S \cdot C_e^{\beta_S}}{1 + K_S \cdot C_e^{\beta_S}}$	$\ln\left(\frac{q_e}{q_{\max} - q_e}\right) = \beta_S \cdot \ln C_e + \ln(K_S^{\beta_S})$	[6]
Toth	$q_e = \frac{K_t \cdot C_e}{(\alpha_t + C_e)^{1/t}}$	-	[7]
Koble-Corrigan	$q_e = \frac{A \cdot C_e^n}{1 + B \cdot C_e^n}$	-	[8]
Khan	$q_e = \frac{q_s \cdot b_K \cdot C_e}{(1 + b_K \cdot C_e)^{\alpha_K}}$	-	[9]

where:  $q_e$  is the experimental amount of pollutant adsorbed per unit mass of material ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ );  $C_e$  is the concentration of pollutant at the equilibrium state ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ );  $q_{\max}$  represents the maximum amount of adsorbate ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ );  $K_L$  is the constant in the Langmuir adsorption model ( $\text{L mg}^{-1}$ );  $K_F$  ( $\text{mg} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$ ) and  $n$  are both constants in the Freundlich adsorption model;  $q_s$  is the theoretical isotherm capacity ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ );  $\varepsilon$  and  $K_{DR}$  are the Dubinin–Radushkevich isotherm constants ( $\text{mol}^2 \text{kJ}^{-2}$ );  $K_T$  and  $A_T$  are the Temkin isotherm constant and equilibrium binding constant ( $\text{L g}^{-1}$ );  $R$  is the gas constant ( $\text{J mol}^{-1} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$ );  $T$  is the absolute temperature (K);  $K_R$  ( $\text{L g}^{-1}$ ) and  $\alpha_R$  are the Redlich–Peterson isotherm constants ( $\text{mg}^{-1}$ );  $g$  is the Redlich–Peterson isotherm exponent;  $K_S$  is the Sips isotherm model constant ( $\text{L mg}^{-1}$ ) and  $\beta_S$  is the Sips isotherm model exponent;  $K_t$  ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ );  $\alpha_t$  ( $\text{L mg}^{-1}$ ) and  $t$  are the Toth isotherm constants;  $\alpha_K$  and  $b_K$  are the Khan isotherm model exponent and constant;  $A$  is Koble–Corrigan isotherm constant ( $\text{L}^n \cdot \text{mg}^{1-n} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}$ ) and  $B$  is Koble–Corrigan isotherm constant ( $(\text{L mg}^{-1})^n$ ).

**Table S2.** Kinetic models used on CHIT-PAAA adsorption data.

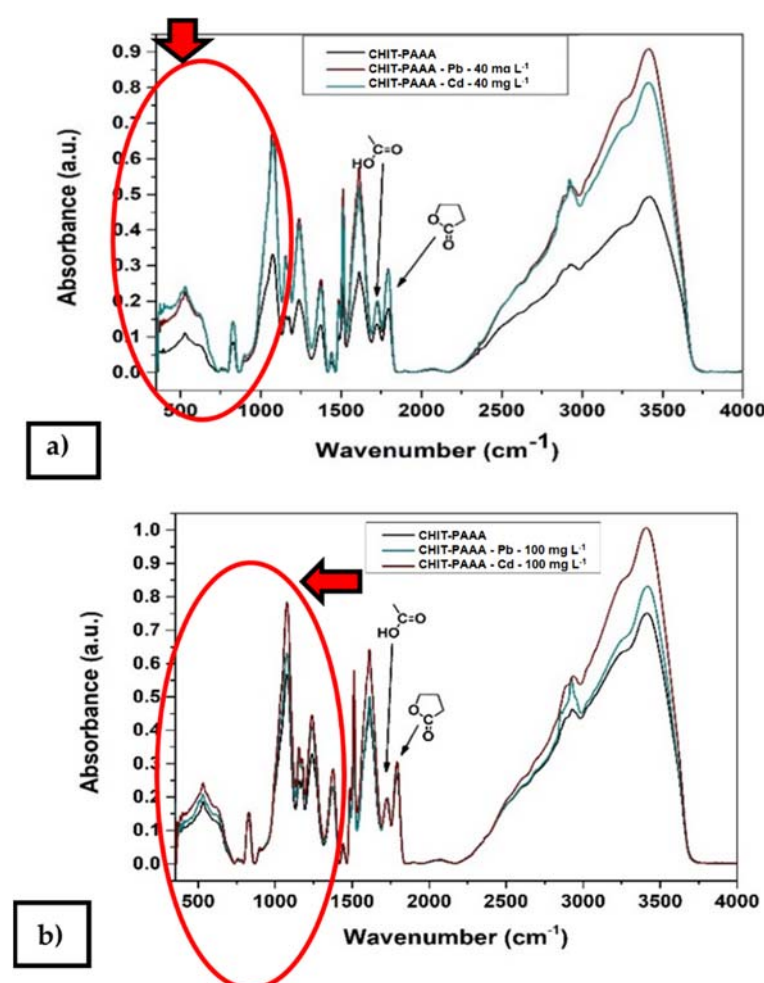
Kinetic Model	Linear Form	References
Pseudo-first-order	$\log(q_{e1} - q_{t1}) = \log q_{e1} - \left(\frac{k_1}{2.303}\right)t$	[10]
Pseudo-second-order	$\frac{t}{q_{t2}} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_{e2}^2} + \frac{t}{q_{e2}}$	[11]
Weber Morris intra-particle diffusion	$q_t = k_{ipd} \cdot t^{1/2} + C$	[12]
Elovich	$q_t = \frac{\ln \alpha \cdot \beta}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\beta} \cdot \ln t$	[13]

where:  $q_{e1}$ ,  $q_{e2}$  represent the experimental amount of pollutant adsorbed at the equilibrium state ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ );  $q_t, q_{t1}, q_{t2}$  ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ ) are the amount of pollutant adsorbed at time  $t$  [min];  $k_1$  ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ),  $k_2$  ( $\text{g g}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ ) are the adsorption rate constants of the pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order adsorption models;  $\alpha$  is the initial adsorption rate ( $\text{mg g}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ );  $\beta$  is a

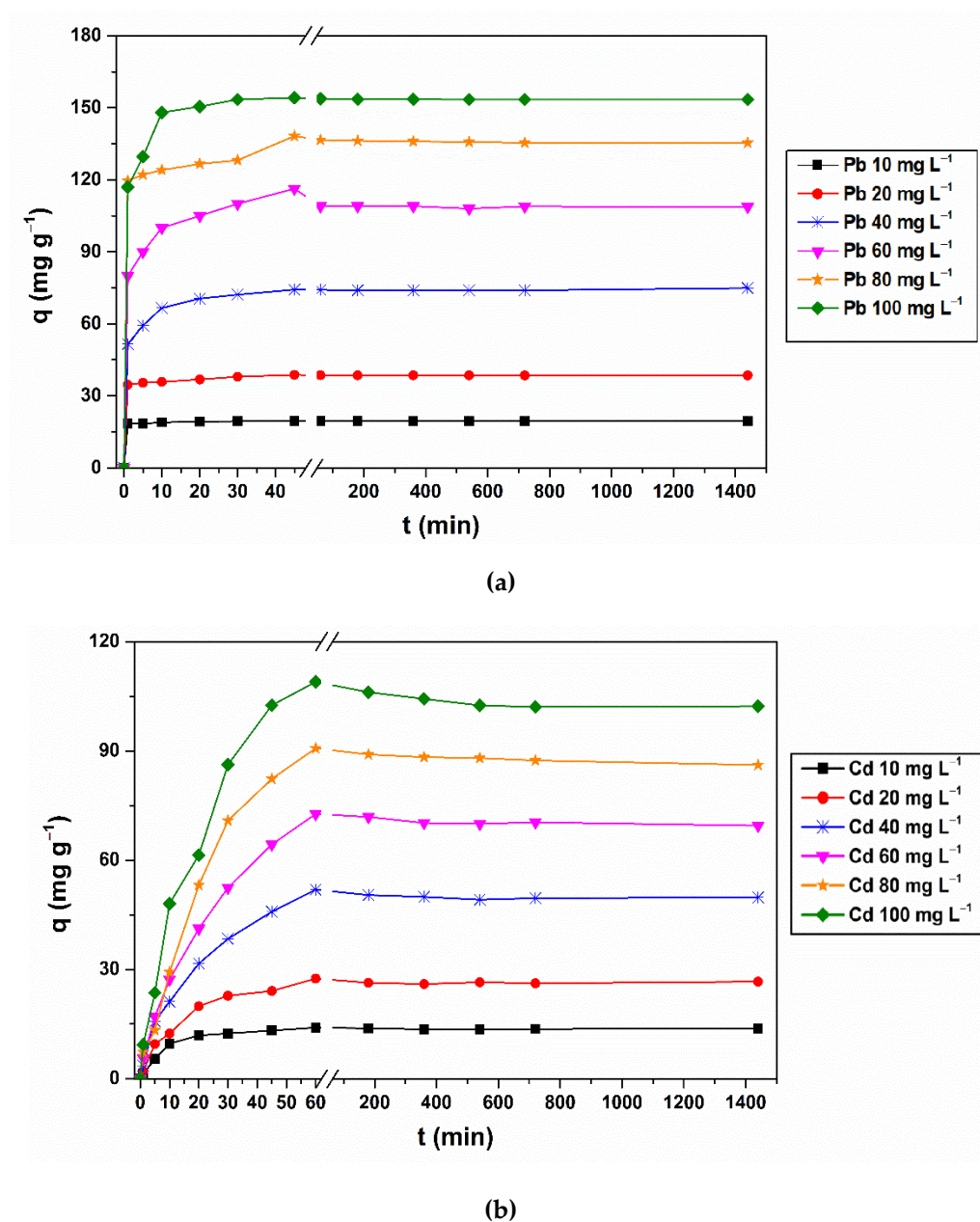
desorption constant related to the extent of surface coverage and activation energy for chemisorption ( $\text{g mg}^{-1}$ );  $k_{\text{ipd}}$  is the intra-particle diffusion rate constant ( $\text{mg g}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ );  $C$  is the intercept that gives an idea about the thickness of the boundary layer ( $\text{mg g}^{-1}$ ).  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  parameters and  $q_e$  were calculated from the intercepts and slopes obtained by plotting  $\ln(q_e - q_t)$  versus  $t$  and  $t/q_t$  versus  $t$ , respectively.  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  Elovich maximum adsorption capacity and constant were calculated from the slopes and the intercepts obtained by plotting  $q_t$  versus  $\ln(t)$ , while  $K_{\text{ipd}}$  was determined from the plot of  $q_t$  versus  $t^{1/2}$ .

**Table S3.** Geographic coordinates of the collected metal-polluted water samples.

Sample	Mining Site	Coordinates	
		Latitude	Longitude
RM4	Roşia Montană	46°18'16"N	23°06'09"E
RM6	Roşia Montană	46°18'23"N	23°05'00"E
RM8	Roşia Montană	46°18'04"N	23°07'06"E
RM25	Roşia Montană	46°17'31"N	23°07'22"E
NB4	Novăţ-Borşa	47°43'10"N	24°34'41"E
NB6	Novăţ-Borşa	47°43'19"N	24°34'29"E
NB8	Novăţ-Borşa	47°43'19"N	24°34'17"E
NB10	Novăţ-Borşa	47°43'29"N	24°34'21"E



**Figure S1.** FTIR of CHIT-PAAA before and after adsorption of Pb and Cd from 40  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  (a) and 100  $\text{mg L}^{-1}$  (b) stock solutions.



**Figure S2.** The effect of contact time on Pb (a) and Cd (b) sorption capacities of CHIT-PAAA.

**Table S4.** Results of the Pb and Cd adsorption equilibrium study performed on CHIT-PAAA. ( $C_i = 10\text{--}100\text{ mg L}^{-1}$ ,  $0.02\text{ g material}$ ,  $298\text{ K}$ ,  $600\text{ rpm}$ ,  $24\text{ h}$ ).

Isotherms	Forms	Coefficients	Pb	Cd
Langmuir	Linear	$K_L (\text{L mg}^{-1})$	0.350	0.030
		$q_{\max} (\text{mg g}^{-1})$	170.068	180.505
		$R^2$	0.999	0.998
	Nonlinear	RMSE	0.003	0.007
		$K_L (\text{L mg}^{-1})$	0.330	0.023
		$q_{\max} (\text{mg g}^{-1})$	170.343	188.721
Freundlich	Linear	$R^2$	0.997	0.999
		RMSE	3.903	1.302
		$K_F (\text{mg g}^{-1})$	35.909	6.391
		$n$	2.252	1.375

<b>Dubinin-Radushkevich</b>	Nonlinear	$R^2$	0.977	0.997
		RMSE	0.182	0.066
		$K_F$ (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	50.460	7.914
		n	2.681	1.511
		$R^2$	0.981	0.998
		RMSE	11.385	2.414
	Linear	$K_{DR}$ (mol <sup>2</sup> kJ <sup>-2</sup> )	0.001	0.005
		$q_s$ (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	88.677	52.668
		E (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	19.780	10.011
		$R^2$	0.899	0.869
		RMSE	0.372	0.583
		$K_{DR}$ (mol <sup>2</sup> kJ <sup>-2</sup> )	$4.618 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$16.540 \cdot 10^{-6}$
<b>Temkin</b>	Nonlinear	$q_s$ (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	132.555	91.859
		E (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	1.040	0.175
		$R^2$	0.927	0.931
		RMSE	22.305	13.994
		$A_T$ (L g <sup>-1</sup> )	1.843	2.549
		$K_T$	47.476	77.448
	Linear	$R^2$	0.996	0.983
		RMSE	5.469	6.999
		$A_T$ (L g <sup>-1</sup> )	5.133	0.392
		$K_T$	77.657	77.446
		$R^2$	0.995	0.983
		RMSE	5.469	6.999
<b>Redlich-Peterson</b>	Nonlinear	$K_R$ (L g <sup>-1</sup> )	41.305	6.391
		$\alpha_R$ (mg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.525	0.272
		$R^2$	0.986	0.979
		RMSE	0.168	0.066
		$K_R$ (L g <sup>-1</sup> )	74.333	5.432
		$\alpha_R$ (mg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.624	0.087
	Linear	g	0.888	0.748
		$R^2$	0.999	0.999
		RMSE	2.151	0.738
		$q_{max}$ (L mg <sup>-1</sup> )	170.068	180.505
		$K_s$ (L mg <sup>-1</sup> )	1.00008	0.026
		$\beta_s$	0.005	0.992
<b>Sips</b>	Nonlinear	$R^2$	0.997	0.999
		RMSE	0.002	0.035
		$q_{max}$ (L mg <sup>-1</sup> )	59.438	5.487
		$K_s$ (L mg <sup>-1</sup> )	0.312	0.022
		$\beta_s$	0.824	0.889
		$R^2$	0.999	0.999
<b>Toth</b>	Nonlinear	RMSE	1.339	0.916
		$K_t$	50.474	7.917
		$\alpha_t$	$1.074 \cdot 10^{-16}$	$1.430 \cdot 10^{-17}$
		t	1.594	2.955
		$R^2$	0.981	0.998
		RMSE	13.147	2.787
<b>Koble-Corrigan</b>	Nonlinear	A	59.438	5.487
		n	0.824	0.889
		B	0.312	0.022

Khan	Nonlinear	R <sup>2</sup>	0.999	0.999
		RMSE	1.339	0.916
		q <sub>s</sub>	111.567	66.047
		b <sub>K</sub>	0.619	0.076
		α <sub>K</sub>	0.857	0.569
		R <sup>2</sup>	0.999	0.999
		RMSE	2.459	0.636

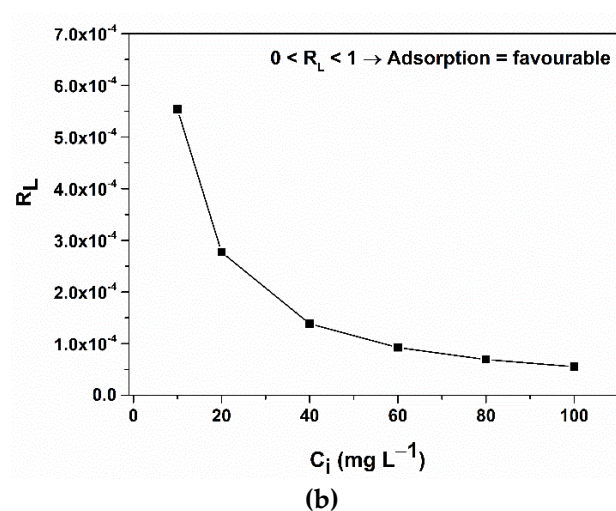
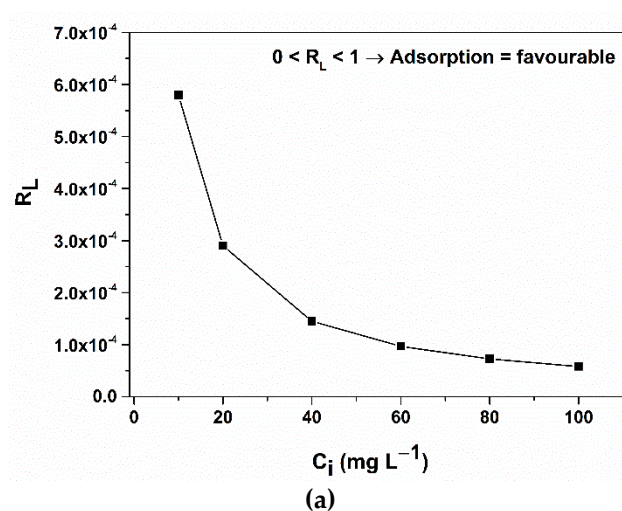


Figure S3. Separation factors determined for Pb (a) and Cd (b) adsorption onto CHIT-PAAA.

Table S5. Results of the kinetic models applied for Pb and Cd sorption onto CHIT-PAAA ( $C_i = 10$ – $100$  mg L<sup>-1</sup>, 0.04 g material, 298 K, 600 rpm).

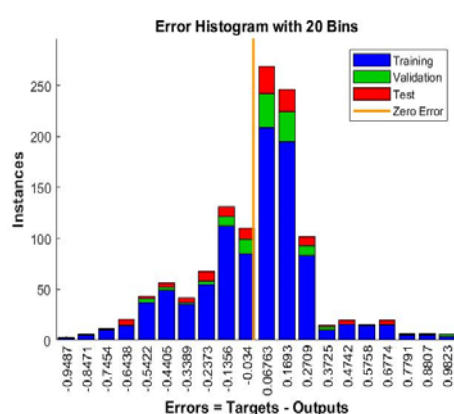
C <sub>i</sub> (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	q <sub>e</sub> (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	Pseudo-First Order			Pseudo-Second Order				Weber Morris Intra-Particle Diffusion			Elovich		
		k <sub>1</sub> (min <sup>-1</sup> )	q <sub>e1</sub> (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	R <sup>2</sup>	τ <sub>1/2</sub> (min)	k <sub>2</sub> (g mg <sup>-1</sup> min <sup>-1</sup> )	q <sub>e2</sub> (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	R <sup>2</sup>	k <sub>ipd</sub> (mg g <sup>-1</sup> min <sup>-1/2</sup> )	I	R <sup>2</sup>	α (mg g <sup>-1</sup> ·min <sup>-1</sup> )	β (mg g <sup>-1</sup> ·min <sup>-1</sup> )	R <sup>2</sup>
Pb														
10	19.410	2.19 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.111	0.387	0.027	1.895	19.414	1	0.009	18.957	0.545	4.60 10 <sup>53</sup>	6.752	0.809
20	38.500	0.08 10 <sup>-3</sup>	0.915	0.526	0.219	0.119	38.506	1	0.031	36.531	0.625	6.66 10 <sup>25</sup>	1.708	0.866
40	74.920	1.41 10 <sup>-3</sup>	4.105	0.607	1.880	0.007	74.738	0.999	0.163	65.388	0.574	2.63 10 <sup>9</sup>	0.354	0.845
60	108.757	2.53 10 <sup>-3</sup>	12.600	0.421	0.035	0.265	108.696	0.999	0.242	99.622	0.450	1.21 10 <sup>12</sup>	0.294	0.746
80	135.360	1.96 10 <sup>-3</sup>	7.145	0.501	0.069	0.106	135.501	1	0.139	126.68 <sub>8</sub>	0.630	1.05 10 <sup>21</sup>	0.393	0.847
100	153.422	1.10 10 <sup>-3</sup>	3.032	0.448	0.169	0.039	153.374	1	0.281	141.61 <sub>1</sub>	0.484	1.57 10 <sup>14</sup>	0.239	0.774
Cd														
10	13.720	4.54 10 <sup>-3</sup>	2.207	0.633	4.468	1.63 10 <sup>-2</sup>	13.736	0.999	0.194	8.867	0.562	39.299	0.651	0.840
20	26.620	4.61 10 <sup>-3</sup>	6.768	0.715	7.132	5.25 10 <sup>-3</sup>	26.695	0.999	0.450	15.113	0.633	27.690	0.300	0.884
40	49.760	4.40 10 <sup>-3</sup>	13.182	0.645	7.278	2.74 10 <sup>-3</sup>	50.075	0.999	0.925	26.409	0.660	32.495	0.150	0.898



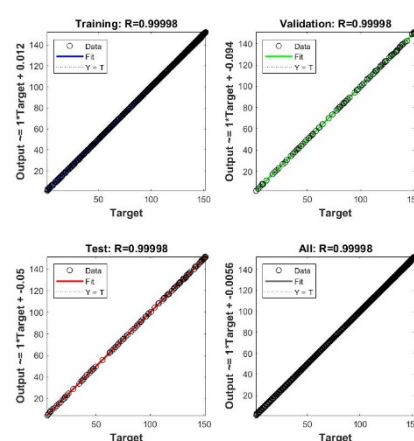
60	69.440	$4.51 \cdot 10^{-3}$	16.639	0.572	6.810	$2.09 \cdot 10^{-3}$	70.225	0.999	1.378	35.324	0.670	34.233	0.102	0.898
80	86.120	$4.35 \cdot 10^{-3}$	20.204	0.562	7.280	$1.57 \cdot 10^{-3}$	87.336	0.999	1.753	43.359	0.648	36.615	0.079	0.879
100	102.260	$3.43 \cdot 10^{-3}$	24.805	0.518	5.326	$1.82 \cdot 10^{-3}$	102.987	0.999	1.882	56.037	0.624	69.705	0.072	0.870

**Table S6.** Performance of algorithms applied for ANN modeling of Pb and Cd adsorption onto CHIT-PAAA.

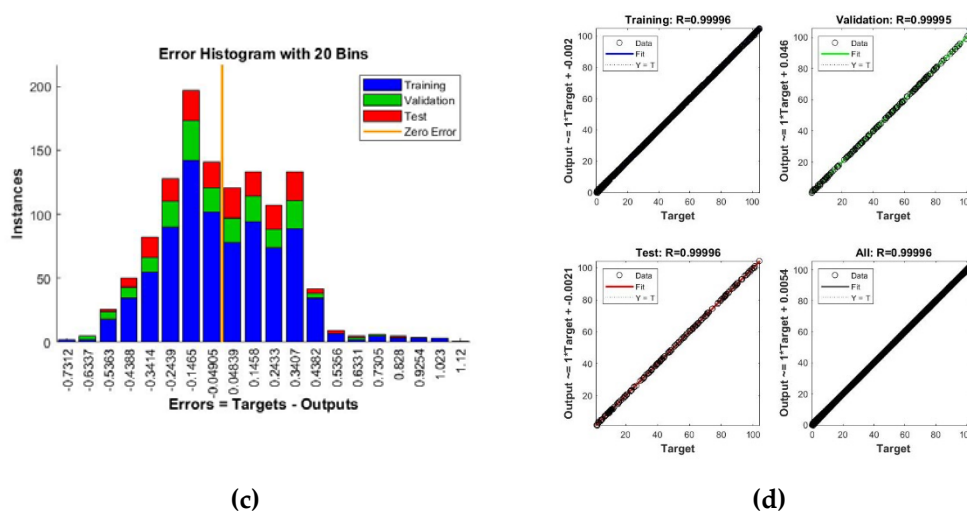
Algorithm	Function	Pb			Cd		
		No. of Neurons	MSE	R <sup>2</sup>	No. of Neurons	MSE	R <sup>2</sup>
Levenberg–Marquardt	<i>trainlm</i>	5	$8.88 \cdot 10^{-2}$	0.999	6	$7.89 \cdot 10^{-2}$	0.999
Resilient Backpropagation	<i>trainrp</i>	7	9.37	0.997	15	40.4	0.975
Fletcher–Reeves	<i>traincgf</i>	10	5.39	0.998	6	11.4	0.992
Conjugate Gradient Polak–Ribière	<i>traincgp</i>	13	6.04	0.998	7	14.4	0.991
Conjugate Gradient Powell–Beale	<i>traincgb</i>	17	4.34	0.998	7	14.2	0.992
Scaled Conjugate Gradient	<i>trainscg</i>	15	3.62	0.999	7	13.3	0.990
BFGS	<i>trainbfg</i>	15	25.90	0.993	23	97.3	0.943
Quasi-Newton	<i>trainbfg</i>	15	25.90	0.993	23	97.3	0.943
One Step Secant	<i>trainoss</i>	18	7.36	0.998	8	20.7	0.988



(a)



(b)



**Figure S4.** Error histograms and regression plots of Pb (a,b) and Cd (c,d) ANN adsorption models generated with Levenberg–Marquardt algorithm.

**Table S7.** Comparison between calculated and ANN predicted values of the metal amount adsorbed onto CHIT-PAAA.

$C_i$ (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	$q_e$ (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	$q_e$ ANN (mg g <sup>-1</sup> )	MSE
<b>Pb</b>			
10	19.410	19.384	0.026
20	38.500	38.479	0.021
40	74.920	74.917	0.003
60	108.757	108.752	0.005
80	135.360	135.356	0.004
100	153.422	153.4173	0.0047
<b>Cd</b>			
10	13.72	13.715	0.005
20	26.62	26.616	0.004
40	49.76	49.673	0.087
60	69.44	69.319	0.121
80	86.12	86.101	0.019
100	102.26	101.925	0.335

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