

Comment

Comment on “Removal of chlorophenols from groundwater by chitosan sorption”

Recently, Zheng et al. (2004) published the paper entitled as above. In Section 3, Sorption isotherms and kinetic models, two kinetic models, pseudo-first and pseudo-second order equations were used to analyze the mass transfer efficiency between chitosan and solute. Authors cited Wu et al. (2001) for these two models. In fact, it is Lagergren (1898) who first presented the first order rate equation for the adsorption of ocalic acid and malonic acid onto charcoal. Lagergren's kinetics equation has been most widely used for the adsorption of an adsorbate from an aqueous solution. In order to distinguish kinetics equation based on adsorption capacity of solid from the concentration of solution, Lagergren's first order rate equation has been called pseudo-first order since 1998 (Ho and McKay, 1998a, b, c, d). In addition, citation review of Lagergren kinetic rate equation on adsorption reactions has also been presented (Ho, 2004a). The second order kinetic expression for the adsorption systems of divalent metal ions using sphagnum moss peat has been reported by Ho (1995). In order to distinguish kinetics equation based on adsorption capacity of solid from the concentration of solution, Ho's second order rate expression has been named pseudo-second order (Ho, 1995, 2003a, b, c, d, 2004b, c; Ho and Chiang, 2001; Ho and McKay, 1997, 1998a, b, c, d, e, f, 1999a, b, c, d, 2000; Ho and Wang, 2004; Ho et al., 1996, 2000, 2001a, b, 2004). The earlier application of the pseudo-second order equation to the kinetic studies of competitive heavy metal adsorption by sphagnum moss peat was undertaken by Ho et al. (1996). In addition, a modified pseudo-second order kinetic expression has been reported since 1997 (Ho and McKay, 1997). The model has also been presented in following years (Ho, 2002, 2003a, b, c, d, 2004b, c; Ho and Chiang, 2001; Ho and McKay, 1998a, b, c, d, e, f, 1999a, b, c, d, 2000; Ho and Wang, 2004; Ho et al., 2000, 2001a, b, 2004). The most frequently cited papers were

published in *Environmental Technology* (Ho et al., 1996), *Process Safety and Environmental Protection* (Ho and McKay, 1998a, b), *Chemical Engineering Journal* (Ho and McKay, 1998c), *Journal of Environmental Science and Health Part A-Toxic/Hazardous Substances & Environmental Engineering* (Ho and McKay, 1999a), *Resources, Conservation and Recycling* (Ho and McKay, 1999b), *Process Biochemistry* (Ho and McKay, 1999c) and *Water Research* (Ho and McKay, 2000). Similar comments have also been published in *Adsorption Science & Technology* (Ho, 2002), *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* (Ho, 2003a, 2004b), *Journal of Chemical Technology and Biotechnology* (Ho, 2003b), *Biochemical Engineering Journal* (Ho, 2003c), and *Bioresource Technology* (Ho, 2004c).

The pseudo-second order rate expression of Ho has been widely applied to the sorption of metal ions, dyes, herbicides, oil and organic substances from aqueous solutions (Table 1). Moreover, discussion of the reaction order has been reported, for example, the comparison of chemisorption kinetic models (Ho and McKay, 1998a), and pseudo-second order model (Ho and McKay, 1999c). Furthermore, Ho's kinetic expression has also been applied to a multi-stage batch sorption design (Ho and McKay, 1998e, 1999d) and pseudo-isotherm studies (Ho and Wang, 2004).

Research papers conventionally include an introduction, a description of the objectives and procedures of the study, an account of the results and a discussion of the results and their implications. However, a paper's contribution exists not only in its originality and creativity, but also in its continuity and development for the following researches. The reference section can play a key role to researchers who were interested in the paper's statement and would like to follow the study or find useful information from the paper (Ho, 2004a). I suggest that Zheng et al. cite Ho's original pseudo-second order kinetic expression paper or relevant works.

Table 1
Pseudo-second order kinetic model of various related systems from the literature

Sorbent	Sorbate	References
2-Mercaptobenzimidazole–clay	Hg(II)	(Manohar et al., 2002)
Activated carbon	Hg(II)	(Krishnan and Anirudhan, 2002a)
Activated carbon	Pb(II), Hg(II), Cd(II), Co(II)	(Krishnan and Anirudhan, 2002b)
Activated carbon	Cd(II)	(Krishnan and Anirudhan, 2003)
Activated carbon	Pb(II)	(Krishnan et al., 2003)
Activated carbon	Methylene blue	(Banat et al., 2003a)
Activated carbon	Cd(II)	(Özer and Tümen, 2003)
Activated carbon	Phenol	(Banat et al., 2004)
Activated carbon	Cd(II), Ni(II)	(Basso et al., 2002)
Activated carbon	2,4-dichlorophenoxy-acetic acid (2,4-D)	(Aksu and Kabasakal, 2004)
Activated clay	Basic red 18, Acid blue 9	(Ho et al., 2001b)
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	Pb(II), Cd(II), Cu(II), Ni(II)	(Kapoor et al., 1999)
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	Basic blue 9	(Fu and Viraraghavan, 2000)
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	Acid blue 29	(Fu and Viraraghavan, 2001)
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	Congo red	(Fu and Viraraghavan, 2002)
Baker's yeast	Cd(II)	(Vasudevan et al., 2003)
Banana stalk [<i>Musa paradisiaca</i>]	Hg(II)	(Shibi and Anirudhan, 2002)
Base-treated juniper fiber	Cd(II)	(Min et al., 2004)
Beech leaves	Cd(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Bi ₂ O ₃	Cr(VI)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Blast furnace slag, dust, sludge, Carbon slurry	Phenols	(Jain et al., 2004)
Bottom ash	Cu(II) and Pb(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Calcined alunite	Phosphorus	(Özacar, 2003)
Calcined Mg-Al-CO ₃ hydrotalcite	Cr(VI)	(Lazaridis and Asouhidou, 2003)
Chitin, chitosan, <i>Rhizopus arrhizus</i>	Cr(VI), Cu(II)	(Sağ and Aktay, 2002)
Coir	Cu(II), Pb(II)	(Quek et al., 1998a)
Coir pith carbon	Congo red	(Namasivayam and Kavitha, 2002)
<i>Cypress leaves</i>	Pb(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Date pits	Methylene blue	(Banat et al., 2003b)
Diatomaceous earth	Methylene blue	(Shawabkeh and Tutunji, 2003)
Fly ash	Omega chrome red ME, <i>o</i> -cresol, <i>p</i> -nitrophenol	(Ho and McKay, 1999a)
Fly ash	Victoria blue, OCL, PNP, OCRME	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Grafted silica	Pb(II), Cu(II)	(Chiron et al., 2003)
Iron oxide-coated sand	As(V), As(III)	(Thirunavukkarasu et al., 2003)
Microcystis	Ni(II), Cr(VI)	(Singh et al., 2001)
Microporous titanosilicate ETS-10	Pb(II)	(Zhao et al., 2003)
Mixed clay/carbon	Acid blue 9	(Ho and Chiang, 2001)
<i>Mucor rouxii</i>	Pb(II), Cd(II), Ni(II), Zn(II)	(Yan and Viraraghavan, 2003)
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Pb(II), Zn(II), Cd(II)	(Keskinan et al., 2003)
Na-bentonite	Oil	(Viraraghavan and Moazed, 2003)
Peat	Basic blue 69, Acid blue 25	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Peat	Cu(II)	(Gundogan et al., 2004)
Peat	Cu(II)	(Petroni et al., 2004)
Peat	Cu(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Peat-resin particle	Basic magenta, basic brilliant green	(Sun and Yang, 2003)
Perlite	Cd(II)	(Mathialagan and Viraraghavan, 2002)
Phosphate	Aluminum-impregnated mesoporous	(Shin et al., 2004)
Pith	Basic red 22, acid red 114	(Ho and McKay, 1999a)
Reed leaves	Cd(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
<i>Rhizopus oligosporus</i>	Cu(II)	(Beolchini et al., 2003)
Sago	Cu(II), Pb(II)	(Quek et al., 1998b)
Sawdust	Cd(II), Pb(II)	(Taty-Costodes et al., 2003)
Sawdust	Phenol	(Jadhav and Vanjara, 2004)

Table 1 (continued)

Sorbent	Sorbate	References
<i>Schizomeris leibleinii</i>	Pb(II)	(Özer, 2003)
Spent grain	Pb(II), Cd(II)	(Low et al., 2000)
Sphagnum moss peat	Cu(II), Ni(II)	(Ho et al., 1996)
Sphagnum moss peat	Chrysoidine (BO2), Astrazon blue (BB3), Astrazone blue (BB69)	(Ho and McKay, 1998d)
Sphagnum moss peat	Cu(II), Ni(II), Pb(II)	(Ho and McKay, 2000)
Sugar beet pulp	Pb(II), Cu(II), Zn(II), Cd(II), Ni(II)	(Reddad et al., 2002)
Sugar beet pulp	Pb(II)	(Reddad et al., 2004)
TNSAC	Phosphate	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Tree fern	Cd(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999d)
Tree fern	Cu(II)	(Ho, 2003d)
Tree fern	Pb(II)	(Ho et al., 2004)
Vermiculite	Cd(II)	(Mathialagan and Viraraghavan, 2003)
Waste tyres, sawdust	Cr(VI)	(Hamadi et al., 2001)
Wollastonite	Ni(II)	(Ho and McKay, 1999c)
Wood	Basic blue 69, acid blue 25	(Ho and McKay, 1998b)

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