## Supporting Information (SI) on

## Efficient removal of Pb<sup>2+</sup> by Tb-MOFs: Identifying the adsorption mechanism through experimental and theoretical investigations

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Supplemental Information, 6 pages, 4 figures and 4 tables.



Figure S1. The structure of H<sub>3</sub>TATAB.



Figure S2. EDS spectrum for Tb-MOFs.



**Figure S3.** The distribution of Pb<sup>2+</sup> species in aqueous solutions.



Figure S4. TEM images of Tb-MOFs after fifth cycle of regeneration (a-d).

Equations						
Pseudo	o second order		Intrapa	rticle diffusio	n	
$\frac{t}{C_{t}} =$	$=\frac{1}{k_2C_{\rm e}^2}+\frac{t}{C_{\rm e}}$	$C_{\rm t} = k_{\rm id} t^{\frac{1}{2}} + A$				
$k_2$ (g/(mg·min))	$C_{\rm e}({\rm mg/g})$	$R^2$	$k_{id}(g/(mg \cdot min))$	A(mg/g)	$R^{2}_{id}$	
0.002 380		0.999	the first stage			
	380 0.999		100	7.69	0.999	
			the second stage			
			12.93	266	0.980	
			the third stage			
			4.30	312	0.997	
			the fourth stage			
			0	343	1	

 Table S1 Parameters obtained from different kinetic model.

 $k_2$ ,  $k_{id}$ , and A represent the kinetic constants.  $C_e$  and  $C_t$  are the mass of Pb<sup>2+</sup> adsorbed on Tb-MOFs at equilibrium and at time.

<b>Table S2</b> Thermodynamic parameters for Pb <sup>2+</sup> removal onto Tb-MO
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<i>T</i> (K)	$\Delta G^0$ (kJ/mol)	$\Delta S^0 \left( J/(\text{mol}\cdot \mathbf{K}) \right)$	$\Delta H^0$ (kJ/mol)
298	-22.76		
308	-24.33	157.32	24.12
318	-25.91		

			y — -			
Number of cycles	0	1	2	3	4	5
[Tb] (µg/mL)	0.095	0.088	0.075	0.083	0.077	0.072
$\omega([Tb(g)]/[MOFs(g)])$	0.63 ‰	0.59 ‰	0.50 ‰	0.55 ‰	0.51 ‰	0.48 ‰
ω([Tb(g)]/[Tb in MOFs (g)])	2.5 ‰	2.4 ‰	2.0 ‰	2.2 ‰	2.1 ‰	1.9 ‰

Table S3 The concentration of Tb in solution after adsorption in regeneration cycles.

pH = 5.5, m/V = 0.15 g/L.

[Tb] is the concentration of Tb released in solution;  $\omega([Tb]/[MOFs])$  is the weight ratio of released Tb and Tb-MOFs in solution;  $\omega([Tb]/[Tb in MOFs])$  is the weight ratio of released Tb and the total Tb of Tb-MOFs in solution.

calculations				
Binding mode	$E_{\rm b}({\rm eV})$	Binding distance (Å)	Description	
[Single-Tb-MOFsPb] <sup>2+</sup>	5.99	2.36/2.24 (Pb-N1/N2)	Single ligand binding with Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
[Single(-H)-Tb-MOFsPb] <sup>+</sup>	20.66	2.12/2.29 (Pb-N1/N2)	Single ligand binding (N1 removed a proton) with Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
[Double-Tb-MOFsPb] <sup>2+</sup>	7.78	2.44/2.53/2.54/2.71 (Pb-N1/N2/N3/N4)	Double ligands binding with Pb <sup>2+</sup>	
[Double(-H)-Tb-MOFsPb] <sup>+</sup>	14.95	2.25/2.31 (Pb-N3/N4)	Double ligands binding (N3 removed a proton)	
[Double(-2H)-Tb-MOFsPb]	20.78	2.27/2.26/2.36 (Pb-N1/N3/N4)	Double ligands binding (N1 and N3 removed two protons)	

**Table S4** The calculated binding energies  $(E_b)$  between Pb<sup>2+</sup> and Tb-MOFs by DFT

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