## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

## Chitosan gel scaffolds for recyclable adsorption of Cu(II) ions

Hao Liu and Chaoyang Wang\*



Scheme S1 Formation of chitosan scaffold by templating from Pickering high internal phase emulsions (HIPEs).



**Fig. S1** The size distribution graphs of HIPEs at: a) different internal phase fractions, and b) different chitosan nanoparticle concentrations.



**Fig. S2** The frequency dependence of the storage G' (solid symbols) and loss G" (open symbols) moduli of the chitosan nanoparticles-stabilized HIPEs formed at different internal phase fractions of 75.0, 80.0, 85.7 %, respectively, measure at strain  $\gamma = 1\%$ .



Fig. S3 FTIR spectra of GLA, chitosan and scaffold 3.



Fig. S4 Digital photograph: left, HIPE 2 and right, scaffold 3.



Fig. S5 Appearance of the monoliths after the introduction of acid solution, a) HIPE 2, b) scaffold 3.



**Fig. S6** Effect of initial solution pH values on adsorption capacities of Cu(II) ions for chitosan-GLA scaffold. The initial Cu(II) ions concentration is 400 mg/L, and the adsorption is performed at room temperature.



**Fig. S7** Isotherms of Cu(II) ions adsorption on chitosan-GLA scaffold. The initial copper concentration is 400 mg/L, and the adsorption is performed at room temperature and pH 5.0.