

## **N-doped carbon xerogels as adsorbents for removal of heavy metal ions from aqueous solution**

**Bin Yang<sup>1</sup>, Chengxiang Yu<sup>1</sup>, Qingni Yu<sup>1,2</sup>, Xingwang Zhang<sup>1,\*</sup>, Zhongjian Li<sup>1</sup>, Lecheng Lei<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Key Laboratory of Biomass Chemical Engineering of Ministry of Education, Department of Chemical and

Biological Engineering, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310027, China

<sup>2</sup>National Key Laboratory of Human Factors Engineering, China Astronaut Research and Training Center, Beijing

100094, China

**Corresponding author: Dr. and Prof. Xingwang Zhang**

**Tel./Fax: +86-571-87952525, E-mail address: [xwzhang@zju.edu.cn](mailto:xwzhang@zju.edu.cn)**

## Adsorption isotherms

**Table S1.** Parameters and correlation coefficients for the isotherm models

Models	Parameter	CX	NCX-100-2	NCX-150-2	NCX-200-2	NCX-150-1	NCX-150-1.5
Henry	k	0.106	0.118	0.131	0.103	0.109	0.115
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.674	0.516	0.522	0.485	0.800	0.814
Freundlich	n	2.068	2.845	2.640	2.598	4.002	4.314
	K <sub>F</sub>	3.665	10.387	9.576	7.710	16.778	20.071
	R <sup>2</sup>	0.929	0.867	0.831	0.846	0.914	0.974

## Adsorption kinetics

### Intraparticle diffusion model

$$R = k_t t^m \quad (S1)$$

$$\ln R = m \ln t + \ln k_t \quad (S2)$$

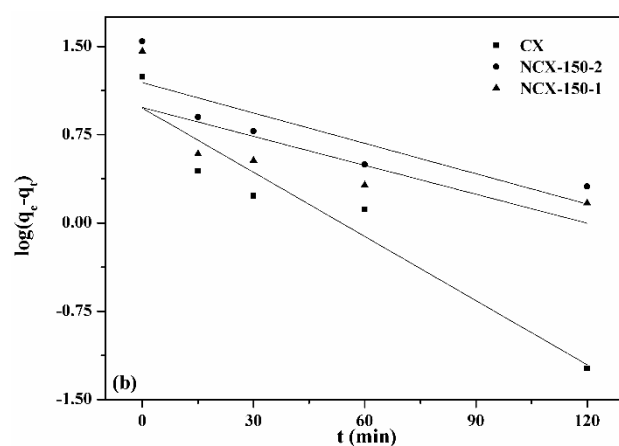
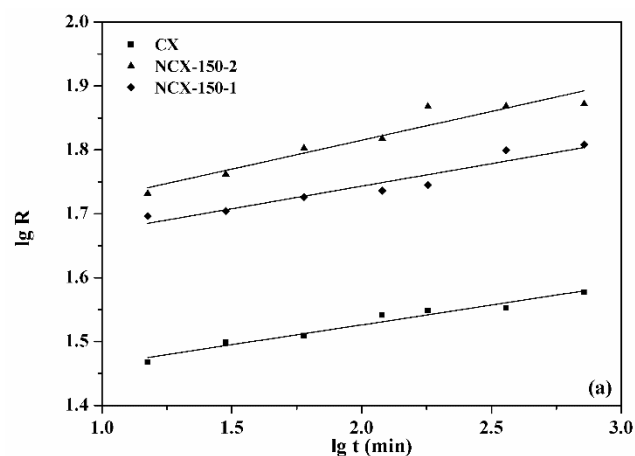
where  $R$  is the percentage adsorption and  $t$  is the contact time (min).  $k_t$  and  $m$  are the intraparticle diffusion rate constant and exponent factor, respectively. The value of  $\ln R$  were plotted against  $\ln t$ , as shown in **Figure S1 (a)**.

### Pseudo-first-order model

$$q_t = q_e \cdot [1 - \exp(-k_1 t)] \quad (S3)$$

$$\text{or } \ln(q_e - q_t) = \ln q_e - k_1 t \quad (S4)$$

where  $q_t$  is the adsorbed amount of Pb ions at equilibrium and  $k_1$  is the rate constant. The linear fit of  $\ln(q_e - q_t)$  against  $t$  can be described in **Figure S1 (b)**.



**Figure S1.** The adsorption kinetics including (a) intraparticle diffusion and (b) pseudo-first-order models.

**Table S2.** Parameters and correlation coefficients for the kinetic models

Models	Parameter	CX	NCX-150-2	NCX-150-1
Intraparticle diffusion	$k_t$ ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ )	25.221	43.104	39.982
	$m$	0.062	0.090	0.071
	$R^2$	0.956	0.902	0.909
Pseudo-first-order	$k_l$ ( $\text{h}^{-1}$ )	6.777	4.995	7.195
	$q_e$ (mg/g)	17.4	34.9	28.7
	$R^2$	0.976	0.956	0.945