Data Article

Qualitative analysis of acid washed black cumin seeds for decolorization of water through removal of highly intense dye methylene blue

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A B S T R A C T

Dyes in water change the colour, taste and odour of water, are highly visible, and can be toxic and cancerous for the coloured water consumption human beings. Basic dyes particularly, methylene blue, MB has high colour intensity, shows intense colour even at low concentration, and are very toxic due to their complex structure. Instead of adsorption, removal of MB from water using various traditional treatment methods is costly and less effective. The use of bioadsorbent provides easy and low cost technique for removal of MB. For searching the adequate technique of dye removal, adsorption efficiency and mechanism of bioadsorbent can be analyzed. To this, MB removal efficiency of seeds of medicinal plant, black cumin seeds were analyzed. The data are supplied in the article.

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Specifications table

| Subject area          | Environmental Chemistry |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| More specific subject area | Adsorption             |
| Type of data          | Table, image, graph     |
| How data was acquired | FTIR, XRD, SEM-EDX and TEM |

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Value of the data

- Black cumin seeds are highly porous, amorphous and have large functional sites.
- High rate and efficiency of removal of methylene blue from water.
- Low quantity of black cumin seeds is sufficient.

1. Experimental design

Black cumin seeds were washed with inorganic acid, hydrochloric acid. Surface and particles properties of acid washed black cumin seeds were analyzed by FT-IR, XRD, SEM-EDX and TEM [1] (Supplementary Fig. S.1–5). MB removal efficiency of acid washed black cumin seeds, AWBC were analyzed according to the batch adsorption experiments under the various conditions such as effect of amount of AWBC, pH of solution, concentration of MB in solution, time and temperature of reaction [1] (Supplementary Fig. S.6–9). The efficacies of AWBC were compared to the un-washed black cumin seeds [1]. The concentrations of MB before adsorption and after adsorption in the water were analyzed by UV–vis absorption spectroscopy. The FT-IR spectrum of post adsorption AWBC (Supplementary Fig. S.1) confirmed the interaction between AWBC and MB dye (Scheme 1) [1]. The removal efficiency of AWBC for MB was compared to other adsorbent (Table 1).

Scheme 1. : Proposed mechanistic pathway for electrostatic and hydrogen bonding interactions between MB and AWBC.
2. Materials and methods

2.1. Washing of black cumin seeds

The washed, dried and grounded, seeds of black cumin were washed with common inorganic acid, Hydrochloric acid (HCl) as per the method reported literature [1,2] to leach out the others elements attached on their surface.

2.2. Determination of surface properties of black cumin seeds

FT-IR spectrum analyzed for the functional groups present on the surface of AWBC which acted as adsorptive sites for MB molecules. The diffraction peaks in XRD pattern of AWBC were used to analyze the amorphous nature of the AWBC. SEM and TEM images are given for the porous and heterogeneous surface of AWBC, respectively. EDX pattern were analyzed for chemical composition of AWBC. The graph between $\Delta \text{pH} = \text{pHi} - \text{pHf}$ and $\text{pHi}$ gave the zero point charge of AWBC [1].

2.3. Batch adsorption experiments

Batch adsorption experiments were carried out by agitating (at 215 rpm) the series of 50 mL of Erlenmeyer flasks having 10 mL of MB dye solution of an initial concentrations varying from 10 to 60 mg L$^{-1}$ and 1 gL$^{-1}$ of AWBC for contact time of 0–120 min at neutral pH, and room temperature. The concentration of MB in the solution before agitation and after agitation was estimated by analyzing their absorbance using ultraviolet-visible (UV–vis) spectrophotometer at 660 nm. These estimated initial, $C_0$ and final concentrations, $C_e$ of MB solution, respectively, gave the uptake capacity as follows [3–5]:

$$\text{Maximum uptake of MB, } Q_e = (C_0 - C_e) \frac{V}{m}$$

where, $V$ is the volume of MB solution in liter and $m$ (g) is the amount of AWBC.

$$\text{Percentage removal, } R\% = \left( \frac{C_0 - C_e}{C_0} \right) 100$$

Ultimately, adsorption data obtained from above study was verified by fitting in various isotherms, kinetic and thermodynamic relationships [6,7] to design the appropriate water treatment system using bio-adsorbent [1].

### Table 1
Comparative MB removal study.

| Bio-adsorbent                                      | MB removal capacity (mg g$^{-1}$) | Ref. |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|
| Cortaderia selloana flower spikes                  | 40                                | [8]  |
| Phragmites australis                              | 22.7                              | [9]  |
| Mesoporous silica                                 | 65.7                              | [10] |
| Hydrophobic silica aerogel                        | 65.74                             | [11] |
| Hydrophilic silica aerogel                        | 47.21                             |      |
| ZnS: Ni-NP–AC                                     | 21.79                             | [12] |
| Cu(OH)$_2$–NP–AC                                  | 32.9                              | [13] |
| Sunflower seed husk (Helianthus annuus)           | 4.76–23.20                       | [14] |
| Water hyacinth root powder                        | 8.04                              | [15] |
| Dragon fruit peels                                | 62.58                             | [16] |
| Raw algerian kaolin                               | 52.76                             | [17] |
| Salix babylonica leaves powder                    | 60.97                             | [18] |
| Spent yerba mate ilex paraguaris                  | 52.00                             | [19] |
| **Acid washed Black Cumin seed material**         | **73.53**                         | [1]  |
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Transparency document. Supporting information

Transparency data associated with this article can be found in the online version at http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.08.096.

Appendix A. Supporting information

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2018.08.096.

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