

RESEARCH PROJECT

**METAL-PHENOLIC NETWORK-COATED RGO FOR
MALACHITE GREEN ADSORPTION**



Submitted by

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CONTENTS

LETTER OF APPROVAL	ii
COPY RIGHT AGREEMENT	iv
LETTER OF DECLARATION	vi
CONTENTS	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
LIST OF TABLES	x
PREFACE.....	xi
ABSTRACT	xii
I. INTRODUCTION.....	1
I.1. Background	1
I.2. Objectives	3
I.3. Problem Limitations	4
II. LITERATURE REVIEW.....	5
III. MATERIALS AND METHODS.....	14
IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	21
V. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.....	41
REFERENCES	43
APPENDIX A.....	53
APPENDIX B.....	57
APPENDIX C.....	62

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure II.1. Structural Changes of GO to RGO	6
Figure II.2. The mechanism of green reduction of GO	7
Figure II.3. Scheme TA-Fe Films Covered GO Sheet	12
Figure IV.1. Mechanism of MPN/RGO Preparation by (a) Method I and (b) Method II	22
Figure IV.2. The Color Change during MPN/RGO Preparation.....	23
Figure IV.3. Adsorption Performances of GO, MPN/GO, RGO, and MPN/RGO	24
Figure IV.4. % Removal of Malachite Green Adsorbed on MPN/RGO Prepared from Different Ratio of GO:Extract ($\%_v$)	25
Figure IV.5. The Color Change of MG Solution Before and After Adsorption using MPN/RGO	26
Figure IV.6. % Removal of Malachite Green Adsorbed on MPN/RGO Prepared from Different pH.....	27
Figure IV.7. The Interaction between The MPN/RGO Surface is Positively and Negatively Charged with The Positively Charged Adsorbate at The pH Value Below and Above The pH_{pzc}	28
Figure IV.8. Value of pH_{pzc} MPN/RGO 1:0.125	28
Figure IV.9. SEM for MPN/RGO Method I (a) and Method II (b)	29
Figure IV.10. FTIR Spectra for GO, MPN/RGO Method I, and MPN/RGO Method II	31
Figure IV.11. Adsorption Mechanism of MG by MPN/RGO (a) Method I and (b) Method II	32
Figure IV.12. Adsorption Kinetics of MPN/RGO 1:0.125 Method I Pseudo- first Order (a), Method I Pseudo-second Order (b), Method II Pseudo-first Order (c), Method II Pseudo-second Order (d), Method I Intraparticle Diffusion (e), and Method II Intraparticle Diffusion (f),	34
Figure IV.13. Isotherm Adsorption of MPN/RGO 1:0.125 Method I Langmuir Model (a), Method I Freundlich Model (b), Method II Langmuir Model (c), and Method II Freundlich Model (d).....	37
Figure B.1. Raw Curve of Gallic Acid Standard Solution	59
Figure C.1. Raw Curve of Malachite Green Standard Solution.....	63
Figure C.2. Adsorption Thermodynamics of MPN/RGO Method I onto MG	75
Figure C.3. Adsorption Thermodynamics of MPN/RGO Method II onto MG	77

LIST OF TABLES

Table II.1. The adsorption capacity of RGO prepared from GO reduction using plant extracts	8
Table II.2. Research related to the application of GO-MPN.....	11
Table IV.1. EDX Analysis for MPN/RGO	30
Table IV.2. Parameters of The Kinetic Model for MG Adsorption onto MPN/RGO 1:0.125.....	35
Table IV.3. Parameters of The Langmuir and Freundlich Isotherm Model for MG Adsorption onto MPN/RGO 1:0.125.....	38
Table IV.4. Thermodynamics Parameter for MG adsorption onto MPN/RGO.....	40
Table A.1. Preparation of Gallic Acid Standard Solution.....	54
Table A.2. Preparation of Malachite Green Standard Solution.....	55
Table B.1. Data Calculation of TPC	61
Table C.1. Adsorption Performance of GO, MPN/GO, RGO, and MPN/RGO.....	65
Table C.2. Relations between Adsorption Performance and Variation in Ratio of MPN/(RGO) for Method I.....	66
Table C.3. Relations between Adsorption Performance and Variation in Ratio of MPN/RGO for Method II	67
Table C.4. Relations between Adsorption Performance and Variation in pH	68
Table C.5. Adsorption Kinetic of MPN/RGO 1:0.125 (Method I)	69
Table C.6. Adsorption Kinetic of MPN/RGO 1:0.125 (Method II).....	70
Table C.7. Isotherm Adsorption of MPN/RGO 1:0.125 (Method I).....	72
Table C.8. Isotherm Adsorption of MPN/RGO 1:0.125 (Method II)	73
Table C.9. Adsorption Thermodynamic of MPN/RGO Method I	75
Table C.10. Adsorption Thermodynamic of MPN/RGO Method II.....	76

PREFACE

Thank God almighty because for His grace and grace, the author was able to complete the Research Project and prepare his report well. The purpose of this thesis is to meet the requirements in obtaining a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Chemical Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya.

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Surabaya, 23rd March 2022

Author

ABSTRACT

Malachite green (MG) is one of dyes commonly found in wastewater of textile industries. Since the presence of MG is harmful for living organisms. Adsorption is considered as the most method widely investigated since the process is simple and brings advantageous in term of its applicability. Composite of MPN (metal-phenolic network)/RGO (reduced graphene oxide) has been selected as adsorbent to adsorb MG. The aims of the study were to study the preparation of MPN/RGO, to determine the adsorption capacity of MPN/RGO toward MG dye as the selected adsorbate, and to investigate the kinetic, isotherm, and thermodynamic study for MG adsorption over MPN/RGO. Kaffir lime peels extract was used as the reducing agent of GO. MPN/RGO itself was prepared by two different methods by changing the alter of chemicals added during the preparation. In method I, RGO was prepared first, followed by coating it with MPN. In method II, MPN was firstly coated on GO, then MPN-coated GO was reduced by kaffir lime peels extract. SEM-EDX analysis showed that the % atomic weight of O and Fe in MPN/RGO method I was lower than in MPN/RGO method II. FTIR analysis shows that MPN/RGO method I losses hydroxyl, alkoxy, and epoxy functional groups, indicating the successful of reduction process. Whilst on the surface of MPN/RGO indicates part of these groups are still bound which means the GO reduction process is occurred partially. However, the adsorption study shows both adsorbent performed similar achievement by removing around 95% of dye for the same adsorption conditions. The adsorption kinetic were also studied and pseudo-second order adsorption phenomena was confirmed. The intraparticle diffusion model shows that the adsorption process is controlled by surface adsorption. The adsorption capacity based on the Langmuir isotherm for MPN/RGO method I and II are 349 and 360 mg/g, respectively. Thermodynamics approach for MG adsorption over MPN/RGO suggests that MG adsorption occurs spontaneously and endothermic. The recyclability of MPN/RGO sample is interesting to be further investigated to seek a candidate adsorbent applied in textile-based industries.