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Ciprofloxacin removal from aqueous media by adsorption process: a systematic review and meta-analysis

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ABSTRACT

In this study, the adsorption of ciprofloxacin was reviewed from aqueous media (water and wastewater) in studies published over the last years (1990–2020). The objective of this research was to analyze ciprofloxacin removal from aqueous media by adsorption process through a systematic review and meta-analysis. It was found that the ciprofloxacin adsorption data were well fitted on the Langmuir isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. The review further showed that the optimum pH ranged from 6 to 8.5 in most articles. Based on the reported results, the temperature and standard enthalpy change ($\Delta H°$) varied in the range of 273–388 K and –1,212.6 to 170.21 kJ/mol, respectively. The maximum reported adsorption capacity for ciprofloxacin was 1,575 mg/g for C@silica core/shell nanoparticles. Also, the minimum adsorption capacity was related to birnessite (47 ng/g). The most effective adsorbent for ciprofloxacin removal was C@silica core/shell nanoparticles from ZIF-8. The results of the meta-analysis revealed that the adsorption process could remove ciprofloxacin with an acceptable mean efficiency of 59.32% (95% CI: 44.66–73.97). It can be suggested to apply the novel hybrid processes, adsorbent modification, composite adsorbent development, neural network modeling to increase ciprofloxacin adsorption.

Keywords: Ciprofloxacin; Adsorption; Aqueous solution; Systemic review; Meta-analysis

1. Introduction

Population growth and increased production and consumption of emerging pollutants have destroyed the quality of water resources. The amount and types of these hazardous pollutants and related problems are increasing. They can cause enzymatic, hormonal, and genetic disorders in humans [1–5]. Recent researches have reported a large number of emerging pollutants, the metabolites of which have been identified in aqueous media. Conventional water and effluent treatment methods, including physical, chemical, and biological processes (individually or in combination) cannot remove or degrade these pollutants such that most of them eventually enter the ecosystem [6,7]. Antibiotics are among the emerging pollutants that can cause severe impact effects if their residues enter the body [8]. They target certain responsible organisms and destroy ecosystems. Some of them are non-biodegradable and remain in the environment for a long time [9,10]. Ciprofloxacin like other antibiotics could accumulate in the body of organisms, thus posing a potential health risk. Therefore, due to the high-level concentration in various wastewaters, stability, resistance to

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degradation, and potential ecotoxicity, the effective removal of ciprofloxacin is plausible [11–14].

Ciprofloxacin is one of the most important antibiotics in medicine for the treatment of bacterial infections caused by Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria [15]. Ciprofloxacin concentrations were reported to be 0.001 mg/L in effluent and surface water, more than 0.15 mg/L in hospital wastewater, and 30 mg/L in pharmaceutical wastewater [16]. Although the concentration of ciprofloxacin may be low in aqueous media, its continued accumulation can increase the potential hazards to aquatic ecosystems as well as concerns about its biological and genetic damages [17,18]. Ciprofloxacin has a high solubility in aqueous media and high sustainability in soil and effluent systems at different pH conditions [19]. Several physicochemical processes have been used to remove ciprofloxacin from aqueous media such as ozonation [20], photocatalytic processes [21–23], adsorption [24,25], Fenton, and electrocoagulation [26,27].

There are many concerns about the presence of antibiotics, including ciprofloxacin in the surface and drinking water, because they can pose a potential threat to the environment and human health. Chronic toxicity, endocrine disruption, and direct toxicity of microflora, even at low concentrations, are among these concerns [27]. This study aimed to review papers on the adsorption of ciprofloxacin from different aqueous media from 1990 to 2020 to determine which aqueous media, by what adsorbents, and to what efficiency can adsorb this antibiotic. In addition, the meta-analysis of the results of some papers determined the mean ciprofloxacin adsorption efficiency. The results of the current study will help researchers to identify shortcomings, and conduct their future studies on efficient processes and fill the gap of knowledge.

2. Materials and methods

This review study was conducted during the second six months of 2019 and the first month of 2020. The research team was composed of four university professors who were interested in the subject of study and had research backgrounds in the various fields of research. The members of this team collaborated by supervising the research, monitoring the work process, extracting and data.

2.1. Literature sources and search strategies

The papers analyzed in this study were those published from 1990 to 2020. An extensive search was conducted on the electronic information sources of PubMed (1 October 2019 to 30 October 2019), Web of Science (1 November 2019 to 06 December 2019), Proquest (7 December 2019 to 24 December 2019), and Scopus (25 December 2019 to 30 December 2019) based on the following terms (using the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)): ((Organic material) OR (Micropollutant)) AND ((Drug) OR (Fluoroquinolone) OR (Pharmaceutical) OR ((Antibiotic) OR (Ciprofloxacin)) AND ((Degradation) OR Adsorption) OR (Removal) OR (Mineralization) OR (Decomposition) OR (Oxidation) OR (Treatment) OR (Abatement) OR (Elimination)) AND ((Aqueous) OR (Seawater) OR (Groundwater) OR (Water) OR (Freshwater) OR (Wastewater) OR (Waste) OR (Effluent) OR (Influent)).

2.2. Inclusion and exclusion criteria

The literature search was limited to peer-reviewed publications written in English between 1990 until January 2020. After this stage, we considered a set of inclusion and exclusion criteria, which are described below:

The study inclusion criteria apply to each publication, which consists of scope (Step 1), study quality (Step 2), and data availability (Step 3). For Step 1, two independent screeners first evaluated the titles and abstracts of the retrieved articles to assess whether the paper included ciprofloxacin removal using the adsorption process in aqueous media. In addition, the full text of the papers whose abstracts passed the first screening step to confirm that the document contained an experimental study and to evaluate the efficiency of the ciprofloxacin adsorption process. We excluded books, presentations, review papers, and letters to the editor about the adsorption process for the removal of ciprofloxacin and other environmental matrices such as soil and air. Also, papers about the development of detection methods of ciprofloxacin in different media were excluded. Information on each paper was extracted, such as the first author, year of publication, the type and nature of the adsorbent, initial concentration, fitted models, thermodynamic parameters, optimum pH, adsorption capacity and removal efficiency. For Step 2, the quality of a study was evaluated independently by two scientific reviewers. The studies have passed the criteria of clarity. Publications in which their study and associated methodologies were not sufficiently documented to investigate the quality of the study were not included. After a publication passed both scope and quality criteria, the availability of the data (Step 3) was analyzed. For this selection step, papers that used the experimental design method were included in the meta-analysis

2.3. Meta-analysis

Papers with accessible experimental data were included in the meta-analysis. Eventually, 8 papers were meta-analyzed. The binomial distribution was applied to calculate the variance of the data in each paper. Cochran test and I^2 index were used to evaluate the heterogeneity of data, and the random-effects model was used to combine papers due to the heterogeneity in them. Data were analyzed using STATA software (version 12.2). A *P*-value of less than 0.05 was considered as the significant level.

3. Results

The PRISMA flow diagram (the flow diagram depicts the flow of information through the different phases of a systematic review) for the inclusion of studies in the systematic review is shown in Fig. 1. The extracted data from selected papers about the adsorption of ciprofloxacin from water and wastewater media are shown in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The classification of published papers on ciprofloxacin adsorption based on the type of media and adsorbent as illustrated in Fig. 2a and b, respectively. Fig. 3 shows the number of relevant publications from 1990 to 2020. A forest plot of the mean efficiencies of

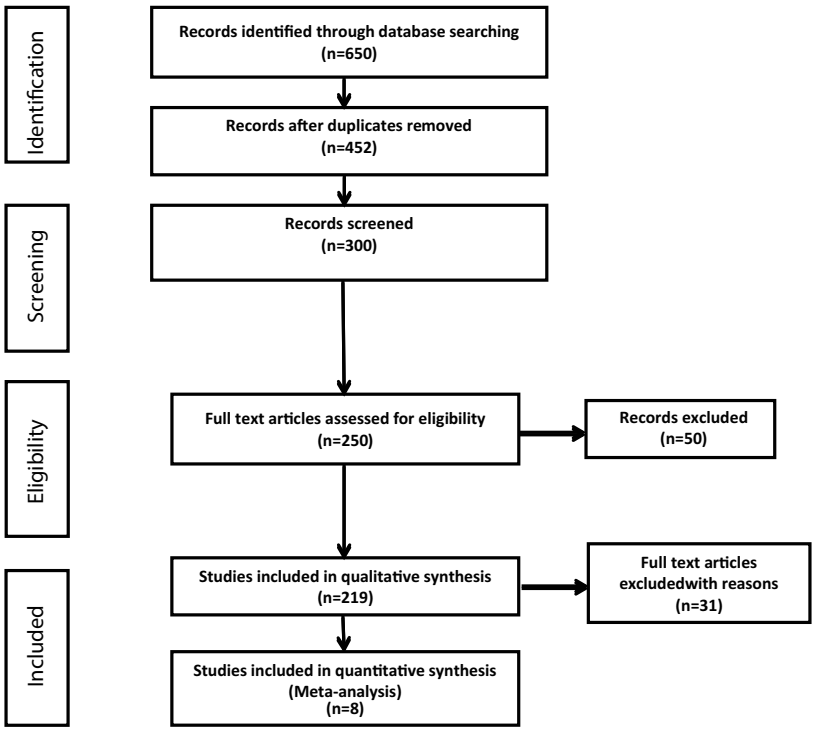

Fig. 1. PRISMA flow diagram for the inclusion of studies in the systematic review.

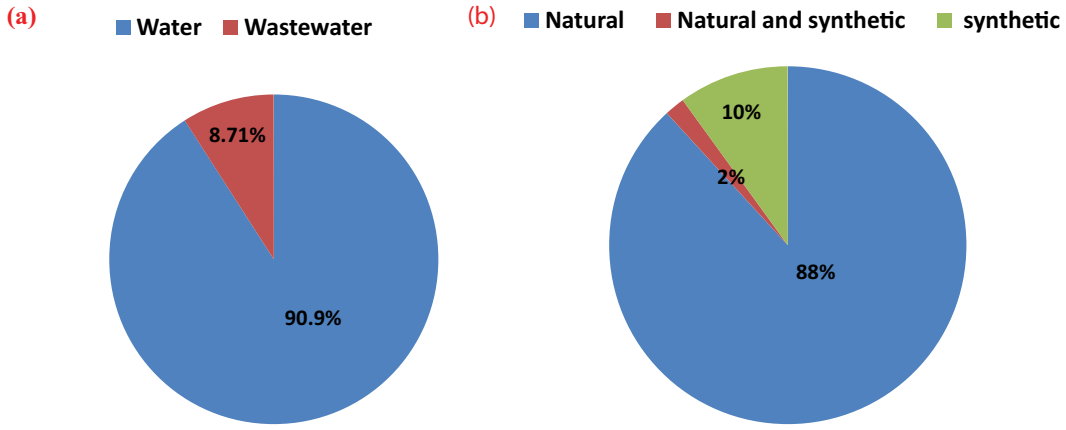

Fig. 2. Classification of published papers on ciprofloxacin adsorption based on (a) the type of aquatic environment (water or wastewater) and (b) the type of adsorbent nature (natural, synthetic or natural and synthetic).

ciprofloxacin removal by the adsorption process is demonstrated in Fig. 4. Experimental conditions of the studies included in the meta-analysis shown in Table 3.

4. Discussion

This study aimed to investigate the removal of ciprofloxacin from two aqueous media (water and wastewater) by adsorption process, through a systematic review and meta-analysis. From 219 papers reviewed, 199 (90.9%) and 20 (9.13%) papers survived the removal efficiency of ciprofloxacin in water and wastewater media, respectively (Fig. 2a). As shown in Fig. 3, no paper has been published on the ciprofloxacin removal from aqueous media until 2008 and less than 10 papers have been published from 2009 to 2013. The number of published papers has increased from 2014 to 2019 so that the highest number of papers was published in 2019 (64 papers). An increasing trend in published papers from 1990 to 2020 could be associated with several factors; further usage of antibiotics in recent years, the establishment of strict standards on the quality of drinking water and water bodies, improvement of the analytical chemistry, and more researches about the impact effects of emerging pollutants on the human health and ecosystems.

Table 1
Adsorption processes applied with different adsorbents to adsorb ciprofloxacin from water media resulting from papers published from 1990 to 2020 (the type and nature of the adsorbent, initial concentration (mg/L), fitted models (kinetics and isotherms), thermodynamic parameters (T (°K), $\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol), endothermic or exothermic condition, type of process, E_a (kJ/mol)), optimum pH, adsorption capacity (mg/g), and removal efficiency (%))

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
1	Synthesized nanoceria	Synthetic	200	Pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	298–318	–1,212.6	Exothermic	Physical and chemical	–	5	49.3	mg/g	[28]
2	Bentonite	Natural	50–500	Pseudo-first-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4.5	147.0	mg/g	[29]
3	Chitosan grafted SiO_2–Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles	Synthetic	5–40	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	12	100.7	mg/g	[30]
4	Zinc oxide supported on SBA-15 type mesoporous silica	Synthetic	2.5–25	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	298.1–318.1	4.6	Endothermic	Physical	–	9	446.4	mg/g	[31]
5	Graphene oxide	Synthetic	5–15	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	18.6	mg/g	[32]
6	Silica-pillared clays (Si-PILC 25) silica-pillared clays (Si-PILC 50) silica-pillared clays (Si-PILC 75)	Natural	18–500	Pseudo-second-order	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	5	74.5, 61.9, 74.1	mg/g	[33]
7	Rice husk char	Synthetic	150–500	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	≥83	%	[34]
8	Diatomaceous earth	Natural	20	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	2	97	%	[35]
9	Novel biomaterials from banyan aerial roots	Synthetic	60	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	8	103.4	%	[36]
10	Coal fly ash, kaolinite, perlite, talc, vermiculite	Natural and synthetic	25–100	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	3, 3, 4.5, 3, 3	3.1, 500, 0.8, 6.0, 11.9	mg/g	[37]

11	Ethylene diaminetetraacetic acid–β-cyclodextrin	Synthetic	100	Pseudo-second-order	Dubinin–Radushkevich	298.1–318.1	–4.7	Exothermic	Physical	0.209	4–5	448	mg/g	[38]
12	Groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea*) shell powder and ZnO nanoparticles	Synthetic	10–100	Pseudo-first-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6 and 4	79.6 and 85.4	%	[39]
13	Magnetic fullerene nanocomposite obtained from sustainable PET bottle wastes	Synthetic	500	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	303–313	–1.7	Exothermic	Physical	–	6	356–373	mg/g	[40]
14	Activated carbon, montmorillonite, modified montmorillonite, alumina	Natural and synthetic	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1.8, 0.6, 1.6, 1.1	mg/g	[41]
15	Derived granular hydrogel with 3D structure	Synthetic	10–600	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	3	267.7	mg/g	[42]
16	MIL-101(Cr)-HSO_3	Synthetic	120	Pseudo-second-order	Redlich–Peterson	–	–	–	–	–	8	564.9	mg/g	[43]
17	Pure SiO_2 nanoparticles from rice husk	Synthetic	10–120	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	303–323	–33.8	Exothermic	Physical	–	8.5	25.4	mg/g	[44]
18	Guava leaves powder	Synthetic	20–40	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	295–320	9.94	Endothermic	Physical	27.2	4	232.5	mg/g	[45]
19	Halloysite nanotubes	Synthetic	50	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6	25.0	mg/g	[46]
20	Cu@TiO_2 hybrids consisting of Cu nanoparticles and mesoporous TiO_2 nanoaggregates	Synthetic	10–160	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	888.5	mg/g	[47]
21	Argentinian montmorillonite	Natural	55–110	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	271.7–377.5	mg/g	[48]
22	Poly(acrylamide-co-itaconic acid)	Synthetic	10–30	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	178.5	mg/g	[49]
23	Kandira stone	Natural	10–40	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	293–323	–7.6	Exothermic	Chemical	–	1–1.5	63.9–68.5	%	[50]
24	Wheat bran	Natural	6.6–29.8	Pseudo-second-order	Dubinin–Radushkevich	298–318	0.0095	Endothermic	Physical	1.1	1.5	159	mg/g	[51]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
25	Pillared clays	Natural	18–500	–	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	10	100.6–122.1	mg/g	[52]
26	Magnetic biosorbents with specific morphological and molecular structure	Synthetic	100–300	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298.1–318.1	−10.6	Exothermic	Physical and chemical	–	5–6.5	527.9	mg/g	[53]
27	Nickel oxide nanoparticles	Synthetic	50–200	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	3	99.8	mg/g	[54]
28	Regenerated-reed/ reed-charcoal	Synthetic	20–50	Hill	Brouers–Sotolongo	293.1–323.1	46.0	Endothermic	Physical	–	10.4	76.6	%	[55]
29	Fe_3O_4 coated polymer clay composite	Synthetic	0.5–40	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6–7	39.1	mg/g	[56]
30	New hybrid supramolecular ionic liquid gels	Synthetic	33.1–331.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	51	%	[57]
31	Montmorillonite	Natural	500–4,000	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	9	330	mg/g	[58]
32	Magnesium oxide, chitosan and graphene oxide	Synthetic	30–1,500	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	1,111	mg/g	[59]
33	Rice straw biochars prepared under three pyrolytic temperatures	Synthetic	5–60	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	8	48.8–131.5	mg/g	[60]
34	Graphene oxide nanosheets	Synthetic	10–500	Pseudo-second-order and Elovich	Hill and Toth	298	−17.0	Exothermic	Chemical	–	~6 –7	>173.4	mg/g	[61]
35	Clickable azido periodic mesoporous organosilicas	Synthetic	0.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.241	mg/g	[62]
36	Fe-MCM-41s	Synthetic	20–80	Pseudo-second-order and intraparticle diffusion	Freundlich	293–313	9.9	Endothermic	Chemical	–	10	83.3	mg/g	[63]
37	Multi-walled carbon nanotubes	Synthetic	1,000–10,000	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	40–97	%	[64]

38	Activated carbon fiber under electrochemical assistance	Synthetic	50	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7.4	98.9–99.9	%	[65]
39	Metal–organic frameworks	Synthetic	30–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	293–323	58.9	Endothermic	Chemical	–	6.8	99.2	%	[66]
40	Chitosan/biochar hydrogel beads	Synthetic	5–160	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	3–10	>76	mg/g	[67]
41	Layered chalcogenides or $K_{2x}Mn_xSn_{3-x}S_6$ (x = 0.5–0.95)	Synthetic	10–250	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	283–313	11.8	Endothermic	Chemical	–	4–6	199.6–269.5	mg/g	[68]
42	Magnetic nanosorbents with siliceous hybrid shells of alginic acid and carrageenan	Synthetic	50–1,200	Pseudo-second-order	Dubinin–Radushkevich	–	–	–	–	–	2	423–1350	mg/g	[69]
43	Magnetite imprinted chitosan nanocomposite	Synthetic	1–50	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	293–338	23.2	Endothermic	Chemical	–	6.5	142	mg/g	[70]
44	Cu(II) and Al(III)-chelated cryogels of N-(2-carboxyethyl) chitosan	Synthetic	3.3–165.6	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7–10	280–390	mg/g	[71]
45	Halloysite nanotubes	Synthetic	3.3–397.6	–	Langmuir	298–338	–25.3	Exothermic	Physical	–	5–9	21.6	mg/g	[72]
46	Diesel exhaust emission soot	Synthetic	60	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	89	%	[73]
47	Municipal solid waste derived biochar	Synthetic	10–250	Pseudo-second-order and Elovich	Hill	–	–	–	–	–	7–8	190	mg/g	[74]
48	Graphene oxide template-confined fabrication of hierarchical porous carbons derived from lignin	Synthetic	100–280	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	8.5	Endothermic	Physical	–	7	980.4	mg/g	[75]
49	Oil shale powders	Synthetic	0–150	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	3	18.2–43.4	mg/g	[76]
50	As-synthesized single-walled, double-walled and multi-walled carbon nanotubes	Synthetic	5–100	–	Brouers–Sotolongo	–	–	–	–	–	3–7	724	mg/g	[77]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
51	Diethylenetri-aminepentaacetic acid–functionalized magnetic graphene oxide	Synthetic	0–20	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	8	70–240	mg/g	[78]
52	Porous carrageen-an-derived carbons	Synthetic	50	Pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	5–8.7	422–459	mg/g	[79]
53	Preparation of a spe-cific bamboo based activated carbon	Synthetic	8.42–842	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	1.5–12.5	613	mg/g	[80]
54	$CoFe_2O_4$/activated carbon@chitosan	Synthetic	10–30	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	5	93.5	%	[25]
55	Multi-functional acti-vated carbon derived from recycled long-root *Eichhornia crassipes*	Synthetic	5–15	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	283.1–303.1	21.8	Endothermic	Chemical	–	4	145	mg/g	[81]
56	Rabbit manure biochar	Synthetic	5–35	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	6.0–32.6	Endothermic	Physical	–	5	17.7–70.1	mg/g	[82]
57	Graphene oxide	Synthetic	1–200	Elovich	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	9	379	mg/g	[83]
58	Municipal solid waste biochar – montmorillonite composite	Natural and synthetic	10–250	Pseudo-second-order and Elovich	Hill	–	–	–	–	–	5	167.3	mg/g	[84]
59	Magnetic resin with humic acid	Synthetic	0–66.2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6.5–7	86	%	[85]
60	Graphene oxide and reduced graphene oxide polysulfone nanocomposite pellets	Synthetic	13–130	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	5	21.4–82.7	mg/g	[86]
61	Zero-valent iron	Synthetic	21.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2.5	80	%	[87]

62	ZIF-67 derived hollow cobalt sulfide	Synthetic	5–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	471.7	mg/g	[88]
63	Zeolitic imidazolate framework-8 derived nanoporous carbon	Synthetic	5–100	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6	416.7	mg/g	[89]
64	Zeolites prepared from coal fly ash	Synthetic	150	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	27–94	%	[90]
65	Porous graphene hydrogel	Synthetic	5–100	Boyd	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	235.6	mg/g	[91]
66	Graphene nanosheet	Synthetic	0–300	Elovich	Sips and Hill	–	–	–	–	–	6	113.3–148	mg/g	[92]
67	Graphene–soy protein aerogel	Synthetic	1–50	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	500	mg/g	[93]
68	Modified coal fly ash	Synthetic	40–140	Pseudo-second-order and intraparticle diffusion	Langmuir	303–323	14.8–28.5	Endothermic	Chemical	–	–	1.5	mg/g	[94]
69	Reduced graphene oxide/magnetite composites	Synthetic	5	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Temkin	288–308	–12.2	Exothermic	Chemical	–	6.5	18.2	mg/g	[95]
70	Yeast particles via atom transfer radical emulsion polymerization	Synthetic	5–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	–	18.4	mg/g	[96]
71	Highly porous BN nanosheets	Synthetic	120	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	10	80	%	[97]
72	CuO nanoparticles	Synthetic	10–200	–	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	7	77	%	[98]
73	Graphitic ordered mesoporous carbons	Synthetic	100–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	21.7	Endothermic	Chemical	–	6	187–236	mg/g	[99]
74	Biochar obtained from used tea leaves	Synthetic	100–500	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	238.1	mg/g	[100]
75	Zero valent copper nanoparticles	Synthetic	10–40	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	3.5	100	%	[101]
76	Activated carbon prepared from *Enteromorpha prolifera* impregnated with H_3PO_4 and sodium benzenesulfonate	Synthetic	440	–	Langmuir	303–323	0.4–13.4	Endothermic	Physical	–	2–7	233–286	mg/g	[102]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
77	Spray-dried chitosan-metal microparticles	Synthetic	25–400	Pseudo-second-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0.005–0.3	mg/g	[103]
78	Montmorillonite and kaolinite	Natural	66.2–530.1	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	1.05 and 0.52	mg/g	[104]
79	UV-accelerated aging of polystyrene and polyvinylchloride	Synthetic	2–25	Pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6–8.5	0.5–7	mg/g	[105]
80	Powder activated carbon and electrospun carbon nanofibers	Synthetic	0.5–20	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	0.26 ± 0.02 and 0.68 ± 0.04	mg/g	[106]
81	Self-regenerating photocatalytic hydrogel	Synthetic	5–100	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5–70	mg/g	[107]
82	Graphene hydrogel	Synthetic	2	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	312	mg/g	[108]
83	Molecularly imprinted polymers	Synthetic	0–60	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	92	%	[109]
84	Waste sludge	Synthetic	10–80	Pseudo-second-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	85	%	[110]
85	Birnessite	Natural	0–800	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6–9	0.000047	mg/g	[19]
86	Activated carbon derived from the residue of desilicated rice husk	Synthetic	150–350	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Koble–Corrigan	298–318	30.7	Endothermic	Physical	–	7.9	454.6	mg/g	[111]
87	Graphene hydrogel	Synthetic	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	189.2–290.5	mg/g	[112]
88	Ionic surfactant modified carbon nanotubes	Synthetic	20	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	–	82–88	%	[113]
89	Long TiO_2 nanotubes		5–50	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	5.3–26.3	mg/g	[114]

90	Humic acid and levulinic acid coated magnetic Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles	Synthetic	5–30	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	53.7 and 101.9	mg/g	[115]
91	*Calotropis gigantea* fiber	Synthetic	0–140	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	8	136.4	mg/g	[116]
92	Wheat straw supported nanoscale zero-valent iron particles	Synthetic	20–100	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–		363.6	mg/g	[117]
93	V_2O_5/ZnO coated carbon nanofibers	Synthetic	10–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	87.7	mg/g	[118]
94	Magnetic MIL-101 (Cr)	Synthetic	5–40	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	22.9–63.2	mg/g	[119]
95	KGM/ZIF-8 aerogels were synthesized by combining konjac glucomannan	Synthetic	100–500	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	313–323	9.9	Endothermic	Physical	–	7	811.0	mg/g	[120]
96	C@silica core/shell nanoparticles from ZIF-8	Synthetic	10–100	–	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6	1575	mg/g	[121]
97	Graphitic ordered mesoporous carbon	Synthetic	50–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	116.7–267.4	mg/g	[122]
98	Organo-vermiculite based on phosphatidylcholine	Synthetic	0–140	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	36.8–93.7	mg/g	[123]
99	Chitosan/kaolin/Fe_3O_4 magnetic microspheres	Synthetic	20–240	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	47.8	mg/g	[124]
100	Porous covalent organic gels	Synthetic	5–50	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	10	93.4	%	[125]
101	*Calotropis gigantea* fiber	Synthetic	50–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	10	64.9–77.3	mg/g	[126]
102	Activated carbon from *Enteromorpha prolifera*	Synthetic	50–500	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7–9	216.5	mg/g	[127]
103	Activated carbon from waste *Salix psammophila*	Synthetic	0–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	7.5	366.9	mg/g	[128]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
104	Novel semi-fluid Fe/ charcoal micro-electrolysis reactor	Synthetic	10–35	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	5.3	54.5–95.5	%	[129]
105	One-pot self-assembly of 3D CdS-graphene aerogels	Synthetic	20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	85.8	%	[130]
106	Novel Fe_3O_4/ Graphene oxide/ citrus peel-derived biochar	Synthetic	10–160	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6	283.4	mg/g	[131]
107	Novel chalcogenide based magnetic adsorbent KMS-1/L-Cystein/Fe_3O_4	Synthetic	10–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	181.3	mg/g	[132]
108	Novel alginate particles decorated with nickel	Synthetic	20–120	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	135.1	mg/g	[133]
109	Nanostructured diatomite	Synthetic	20–40	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	18–75	%	[134]
110	Microporous activated carbon	Synthetic	20–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	303–323	20.5	Endothermic	Physical	–	9	96.1	%	[135]
111	$(MoS_4)^{2-}$ intercalated $CAMoS_4$·LDH material	Synthetic	50	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	707.2	mg/g	[136]
112	Montmorillonite	Natural	40	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	23	mg/g	[137]
113	Magnetic carbon composite, Fe_3O_4/C composite	Synthetic	10–60	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	293–313	13.3	Endothermic	Physical	–	8	90.1	mg/g	[138]
114	MIL-53 (Fe)-directed synthesis of hierarchically mesoporous carbon	Synthetic	10	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4	90.9	mg/g	[139]
115	Kaolinite	Natural	33.1–662.6	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	5–9	4.9	mg/g	[140]

116	Nanosized magnetite	Synthetic	0.33–165.6	–	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6	45–80	%	[141]
117	Magnetic mesoporous carbon material	Synthetic	400–800	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	288–318	65.5	Endothermic	Physical	–	6.8	868.6	mg/g	[142]
118	Magnetic copper-based metal–organic framework	Synthetic	10–80	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	48.6	Endothermic	Physical	–	7	538	mg/g	[143]
119	Magnetic Co-based carbon materials derived from core-shell metal–organic frameworks	Synthetic	16.56	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3–10	88.5	%	[144]
120	Magnetic biochar-based manganese oxide composite	Synthetic	2–16	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	288–308	16.6	Endothermic	Physical	–	3–4	8.3	mg/g	[145]
121	Magnetic alginate-Fe_3O_4 hydrogel fiber	Synthetic	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	0.42–12.2	mg/g	[146]
122	Low-cost magnetic herbal biochar	Synthetic	5–300	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	68.9 ± 3.2	mg/g	[147]
123	Low-cost biochar derived from herbal residue	Synthetic	10–300	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	7	37.6 ± 0.87	mg/g	[148]
124	Red mud	Natural	10–100	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	–	96.5	%	[149]
125	Palygorskite montmorillonite filter medium	Synthetic	1,500	Pseudo-second-order and Elovich	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	100–111	mg/g	[150]
126	Graphene oxide (GO) reinforcement on keratin based smart hydrogel	Synthetic	1–950	Elovich	Langmuir and Sips	–	–	–	–	–	5	28 ± 3–55 ± 6	mg/g	[151]
127	Lonically crosslinked sodium alginate/κ-carrageenan double-network gel beads	Synthetic	20–300	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	293.1–303.1	−2.6–0.5	Exothermic	Physical and chemical		5	245.1	mg/g	[152]
128	Titanium dioxide nanoparticles	Synthetic	0.02–0.5	–	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	–	53.6 ± 7.2	%	[153]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
129	Porous resins	Synthetic	20–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	25–130	mg/g	[154]
130	Stabilized Fe–Mn binary oxide nanoparticles	Synthetic	5–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	1172.2	mg/g	[155]
131	Cationic and anionic flax noil cellulose	Synthetic	80	Pseudo-second-order and intraparticle diffusion	Langmuir	303.1	–17.1 and 9.9	Exothermic and endothermic	Physical	11.10 and 7.87	6.5	156.9–238.7	mg/g	[156]
132	Palygorskite montmorillonite	Natural	100–1,500	–	Langmuir	298–348	11.4	Endothermic	Physical	–	5	0.077–107	mg/g	[157]
133	Synthesized birnessite	Synthetic	500–6,000	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	9	419–442	mg/g	[158]
134	Activated carbon, bentonite, zeolite, and pumice	Synthetic	20–40	Pseudo-second-order	–	295	6–8.6	Endothermic	Physical	–	–	91, 87, 51, and 25	%	[159]
135	*Corylus avellana* (hazelnut) activated carbon	Synthetic	25–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	273–323	3.06	Endothermic	Physical	–	6	61.2–73.6	mg/g	[160]
136	Ordered mesoporous carbon and bamboo-based carbon	Synthetic	20–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	18.4–35.4	Endothermic	Physical	–	6	233.3 and 362.9	mg/g	[161]
137	Activated carbon	Synthetic	20–1,200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	434.7	mg/g	[7]
138	ZnO nanoparticles and groundnut shell powder	Synthetic	80–100	–	Thomas and Yoon–Nelson	–	–	–	–	–	4–6	5.0–6.1 and 5.8–6.7	mg/g	[162]
139	Porous hydrogen-bonding covalent organic polymers	Synthetic	2–20	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	6.1–8.4	mg/g	[163]
140	Facile hydrothermal synthesis of magnetic adsorbent $CoFe_2O_4$/MMT	Synthetic	50–120	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	–25.3	Exothermic	Chemical	–	6	224	mg/g	[164]

141	Raphene–soy protein biocomposites	Synthetic	10–50	–	Langmuir and Temkin	–	–	–	–	–	4	500	mg/g	[165]
142	Biocomposite fibers of graphene oxide/ calcium alginate	Synthetic	5–70	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6.5	18.45–39.06	mg/g	[166]
143	Montmorillonite impregnated cellulose acetate nanofiber membrane	Synthetic	10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	27–>90	%	[167]
144	Magnetic polyaniline/graphene oxide based nanocomposites	Synthetic	10–150	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	298–318	63.8	Endothermic	Chemical	–	6	97	%	[168]
145	Pretreated oat hulls	Synthetic	4.8–60	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	298–318	17	Endothermic	Physical	–	1	83	mg/g	[169]
146	Humic acid modified hydrogel beads	Synthetic	20–250	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	61.2	mg/g	[170]
147	Sludge-derived biochar	Synthetic	0–50	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	41.6–47.8	%	[171]
148	Activated graphene	Synthetic	40–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8	~194.6	mg/g	[172]
149	Modified alginate/ graphene double network porous hydrogel	Synthetic	50–500	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	2	247.5–290.7	mg/g	[173]
150	Polypyrrole functionalized *Calotropis gigantea* fiber	Synthetic	0–200	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	78.2	mg/g	[174]
151	Potassium hydroxide (KOH) modified biochar derived from potato stems and leaves	Synthetic	2–16	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	288.1–308.1	14.2 and 23.4	Endothermic	Physical	–	9	23.3	mg/g	[175]
152	Regenerable long TiO_2 nanotube/ graphene oxide hydrogel	Synthetic	1–200	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	108.7–178.6	mg/g	[176]
153	Surface functionalized superparamagnetic porous silicas	Synthetic	0.01–0.3	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	5	5–108	mg/g	[177]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
154	Ag/AgCl@N-doped activated carbon composite	Synthetic	100	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	47.5–62.5	%	[178]
155	Magnetic activated carbon/chitosan nanocomposite	Synthetic	5–60	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	90.1	mg/g	[179]
156	Simultaneous activated and magnetic ZnO doped biochar derived from camphor leaves	Synthetic	30–300	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4	449.4	mg/g	[180]
157	Fixed-bed column, packed with SGC650H resin	Synthetic	100–200	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	81.5	%	[181]
158	Bamboo charcoal	Synthetic	0.5–70	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	5.5	36.0 ± 1.9	mg/g	[182]
159	Magnetic metal–organic framework sorbents	Synthetic	50–250	Elovich and Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–328	18.3	Endothermic	Physical	–	6	322.5	mg/g	[183]
160	Metal–organic framework	Synthetic	5–250	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	88.9	mg/g	[184]
161	Magnetic multifunctional resin the presence and absence of humic acid	Synthetic	20	–	Freundlich and Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	10	15–53	%	[185]
162	Carbon nanofibers	Synthetic	0.5–3	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	10.3	mg/g	[186]
163	Modified waste grapefruit peel	Synthetic	56.1–1,656.7	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	96.4	%	[187]
164	Fly ash, activated carbon, bentonite and bagasse ash	Natural and synthetic	31.3–66.2	Pseudo-second-order	Temkin	–	–	–	–	–	–	78.4–90.8, 86.2–92, 88.7–93.2, and 88.2–91.3	%	[188]

165	Magnetic graphene oxide/nitrilotriacetic acid nanocomposite	Synthetic	10–100	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	283–313	3.6	Endothermic	Physical	–	10	263.7–334.7	mg/g	[189]
166	Nanostructured chitin/graphene oxide hybrid material	Synthetic	0–700	Pseudo-second-order	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	9	70–300	mg/g	[190]
167	Rice husk biochars	Synthetic	5–60	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	9	36.1	mg/g	[191]
168	Dry-mixing and wet-mixing activated carbons prepared from waste printed circuit boards by NaOH activation	Synthetic	20–800	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	8.1–13.2	Endothermic	Physical	–	8	381.2–603.8	mg/g	[192]
169	Coating magnetic biochar with humic acid	Synthetic	2–18	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	288–388	5.5	Endothermic	Physical and chemical	–	10	11.4	mg/g	[193]
170	Titanate nanotubes	Synthetic	3.3–165.6	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4	18.9	mg/g	[194]
171	Functionalized ferromagnetic 3D $NiFe_2O_4$ porous hollow microsphere	Synthetic	0–10	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	5	>80	%	[195]
172	Different micro-structured tourmaline, halloysite and biotite	Synthetic	0–50	Pseudo-second-order	Redlich–Peterson	–	–	–	–	–	6	21.7	mg/g	[196]
173	Graphene and granular activated carbon	Synthetic	2–60	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–338	−5.8	Exothermic	Physical	–	4–6	323	mg/g	[197]
174	Chemically prepared carbon from date palm leaflets	Synthetic	50–300	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–318	11.6–13.1	Endothermic	Physical	17	6	104.2–133.3	mg/g	[198]
175	Activated carbons prepared from biomass wastes by H_3PO_4 activation	Synthetic	100–800	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	8.5–12.5	244–400	mg/g	[199]
176	Candle soot coated polyurethane foam	Synthetic	60	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	2	80	%	[200]
177	Clinoptilolite	Natural	2–10	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	298–338	−29.9	Exothermic	Physical	–	6	5.4	mg/g	[201]

(Continued)

Table 1 Continued

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
178	*Enteromorpha prolifera*	Natural	12.5–125	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	10	21.7	mg/g	[202]
179	Kaolinitic clay and hematite	Natural	6.6–66.2	Pseudo-second-order	Temkin	303–343	–8.4 and –9.9	Exothermic	Physical	–	5–9	0.53 and 0.02	mg/g	[203]
180	Amine-functionalized magnetic bamboo-based activated carbon	Synthetic	300	–	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	6	131.6–245.6	mg/g	[204]
181	Boron nitride nanomaterials	Synthetic	10–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4–6	1.3–1.6	mg/g	[205]
182	Pectin-functionalized magnetic nanoparticles	Synthetic	5–10	Pseudo-second-order	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	7	89	%	[206]
183	Sodium alginate/graphene oxide composite beads	Synthetic	10–150	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4	4.2–86.1	mg/g	[207]
184	Poly(methacrylic acid) hydrogels	Synthetic	10–50	–	Langmuir	289–310	170.2	Endothermic	Chemical	–	5–8	10	mg/g	[208]
185	Nano-hydroxyapatite	Synthetic	0–25	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir and Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6	47.3	%	[209]
186	Multi-walled carbon nanotubes with different oxygen contents	Synthetic	10–160	Intraparticle diffusion and outer diffusion	Dubinin–Radushkevich and Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	4	150.6–206	mg/g	[210]
187	Activated carbon prepared from lignin with H_3PO_4 activation	Synthetic	180–600	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	293–313	–4.1	Exothermic	Chemical	–	–	418.6	mg/g	[211]
188	Nanoscale zerovalent iron with copper bimetallic particles	Synthetic	50–200	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	81.6–92.9	%	[212]
189	Polyvinylpyrrolidone stabilized NZVI/Cu bimetallic particles	Synthetic	50–200	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	95.6	%	[213]

190	Titanium-based tri-metal oxide mesh type anode, activated charcoal	Synthetic	20	Pseudo-second-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	5.4	93.6–99.1	%	[214]
191	Hierarchical CuS hollow nanospheres@N-doped cellulose nanocrystals hybrid composites	Synthetic	20	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	43.5–66	%	[215]
192	Hydrophilic and strengthened 3D reduced graphene oxide/nano-Fe_3O_4 hybrid hydrogel	Synthetic	0.5–50	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	5–8	86	%	[216]
193	Carbon nanosheets supported TiO_2	Synthetic	5–40	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	7	40.5	mg/g	[217]
194	Nano-zinc oxide incorporated graphene oxide/nanocellulose composite	Synthetic	2–4	Pseudo-first-order	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	5.5	98	%	[218]
195	Sodium alginate/graphene oxide hydrogel beads	Synthetic	20–80	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	7	100	mg/g	[219]
196	Diesel soot coated non-woven fabric	Synthetic	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	97	%	[220]
197	Rice husk	Natural	0.000005–0.001	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	32	mg/g	[221]
198	Magnetic graphene oxide–grafted cellulose nanocrystal molecularly imprinted polymers	Synthetic	0–1,000	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6–8	3.7–5.2	mg/g	[222]
198	ZnO nanoparticles	Synthetic	10–100	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	15–90	%	[224]

(Continued)

Table 2
Adsorption processes applied with different adsorbents to adsorb ciprofloxacin from wastewater media resulting from papers published from 1990 to 2020 the type and nature of the adsorbent, initial concentration (mg/L), fitted models (kinetics and isotherms), thermodynamic parameters (T (°K), $\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol), endothermic or exothermic condition, type of process, E_a (kJ/mol)), optimum pH, adsorption capacity (mg/g), and removal efficiency (%)

No.	Adsorbent	Adsorbent type (natural or synthetic)	Initial concentration	Fitted model		Thermodynamic					Optimum pH	Adsorption capacity/ removal efficiency	Unit	References
				Kinetics	Isotherms	T (°K)	$\Delta H°$ (kJ/mol)	Endothermic or exothermic condition	Type of process	E_a (kJ/mol)				
1	Clay soil, quartz sand and solid matter isolated from the piggery wastewater	Natural	0.000002–0.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	>95	%	[224]
2	Sawdust	Natural	10–20	Pseudo-second-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	5.8	80	%	[225]
3	Combined cross-linked enzyme aggregate	Synthetic	16.5–662.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4.5–5.5	>80	%	[226]
4	Activated carbon produced from Jerivá	Synthetic	100–900	Avrami	Liu	288–318	3.3	Endothermic	Physical	–	7	335.8	mg/g	[227]
5	Magnetic Fe_3O_4/red mud-nanoparticles	Synthetic	3	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	6.5	110.1	mg/g	[228]
6	One-pot synthesis of trifunctional chitosan-EDTA-β-cyclodextrin polymer	Synthetic	0–66.2	Pseudo-second-order	Sips	–	–	–	–	–	3–8	0.053	mg/g	[229]
7	Activated sludge of the sewage treatment plant	Synthetic	0.5–10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	96	%	[230]
8	Functionalized magnetic nanoparticles	Synthetic	5–20	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	85	%	[231]
9	*Ficus benjamina* wood chip-based aerated biofilter	Synthetic	0.005	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	81	%	[232]

10	Aerobic activated sludge system	Synthetic	0.1	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	95	%	[233]
11	Laboratory-scale membrane bioreactors	Synthetic	0–0.5	Pseudo-first-order	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	52.8	%	[234]
12	Anaerobic sulphate-reducing bacteria sludge system	Synthetic	0.1–5	Pseudo-first-order	Henry and Freundlich	278–308	−20–80	Exothermic	Physical and chemical	–	–	20–90	%	[235]
13	Aerobic and anoxic activated sludge process	Synthetic	0.1–0.3	Pseudo-second-order and general–rate–law	Henry and Freundlich	290–303	−29.5	Exothermic	Physical	–	7.3	939.2–1,517.2 and 461.1–1,844.2	mg/g	[236]
14	Sulfate-reducing bacteria sludge	Synthetic	0.1–5	Pseudo-second-order	Freundlich			–	–	–	7	30 and 90	%	[237]
15	Pomegranate peels	Natural	100–10,000	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–				4–5	999	mg/g	[238]
16	Activated charcoal entrapped within zinc-pectinate beads	Synthetic	100–500	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	>0.45	mg/g	[239]
17	SiO_2 nanoparticle	Synthetic	25–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	–	174.5	mg/g	[240]
18	Different carbon materials	Synthetic	100	–	Guggenheim Anderson–De Boer and Sips	–	–	–	–	–	–	264	mg/g	[241]
19	*Rhodococcus* sp. B30 strain	Natural	0.01–0.15	–	Freundlich	–	–	–	–	–	5.5	2–30	%	[217]
20	Activated sludge derived granular activated carbon	Synthetic	20–100	Pseudo-second-order	Langmuir	–	–	–	–	–	7	14–16	mg/g	[242]

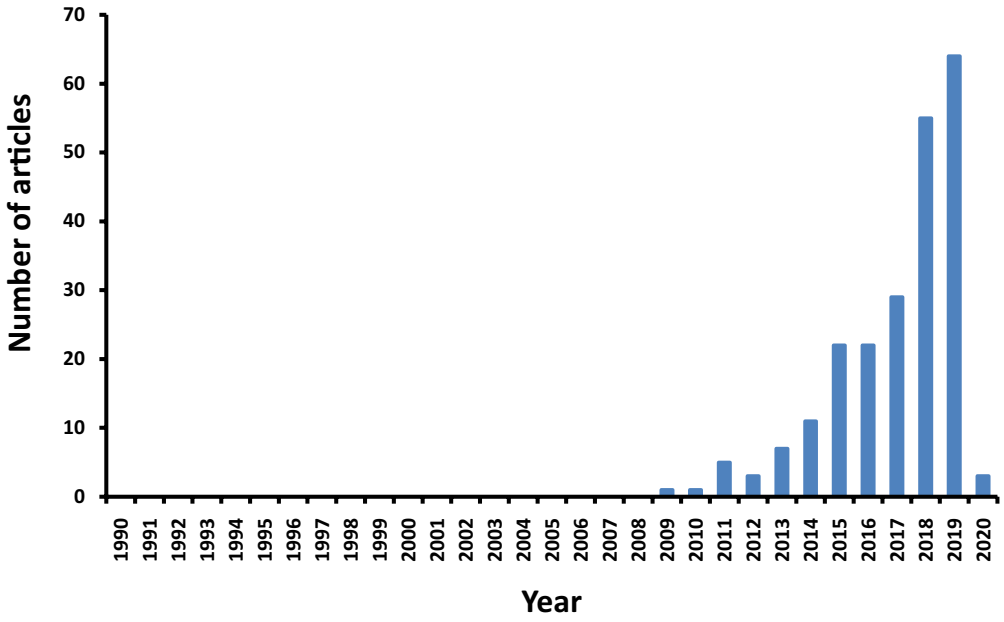

Fig. 3. Number of relevant publications from 1990 to 2020.

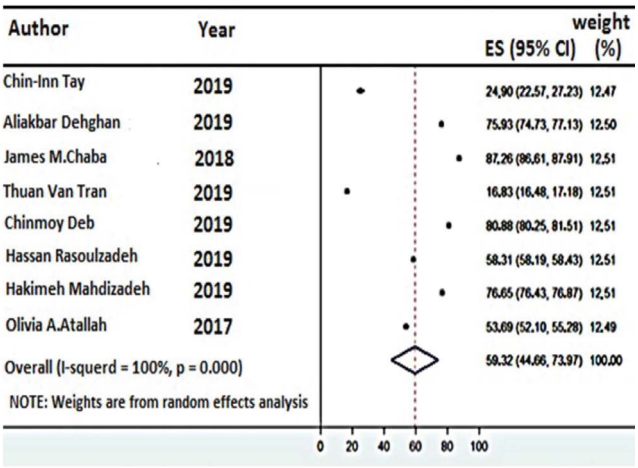

Fig. 4. Forest plot of mean efficiencies of ciprofloxacin removal by the adsorption process.

4.1. Adsorbent type

The type and nature of the adsorbent were considered as the effective factors on the adsorption capacity and removal efficiency of ciprofloxacin [243]. According to Tables 1 and 2, the adsorbents used for the adsorption of ciprofloxacin originated from different natural and synthetic materials. According to Fig. 2b, 22 (10.04%) of adsorbents were natural adsorbents, 4 (1.82%) natural and synthetic, and 193 (88.12%) had a synthetic nature. In the reviewed papers, natural sorbents such as bentonite, diatomaceous earth, montmorillonite, kaolinite, birnessite, clinoptilolite, hematite, silica-pillared clays, sawdust, wheat bran, rice husk, *Enteromorpha prolifera*, clay soil, and etc and synthetic sorbents such as synthesized nanoceria, chitosan grafted SiO_2–Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles, zinc oxide supported on Santa Barbara Amorphous SBA-15 type mesoporous silica, ethylene diaminetetraacetic acid–β-cyclodextrin, groundnut shell powder and zinc oxide (ZnO) nanoparticles, magnetic fullerene nanocomposite obtained from sustainable polyethylene terephthalate bottle wastes, and etc have been used.

By reviewing the adsorbents used to remove ciprofloxacin in various studies, it was observed that a number of adsorbents showed high adsorption capacity, for example, adsorbents containing carbon and graphene, clay adsorbents, magnetic adsorbents, and nanoparticles. In addition, most adsorbents with high adsorption capacity had a synthetic nature.

4.2. Initial concentration of ciprofloxacin

The concentrations of ciprofloxacin in the aqueous media were measured by one of the methods of spectrophotometry or high-performance liquid chromatography. A review of the literature showed that an initial concentration of ciprofloxacin in the range of 2 ng/L to 10,000 mg/L was used. Ciprofloxacin concentrations were reported to be 0.001 mg/L in effluent and surface water, more than 0.15 mg/L in hospital wastewater, and 30 mg/L in pharmaceutical wastewater [11]. It can be concluded that the concentration ranges of ciprofloxacin used in the studies completely covered the concentration of ciprofloxacin in real environments. By reviewing the concentrations used in the studies, we found that in most studies, concentrations ranging from 5 to 500 mg/L demonstrated a high adsorption capacity.

4.3. Optimum pH of the solution

Since pH affects the surface charge of the adsorbent and ciprofloxacin structure, it is considered an important factor for adsorption [243–245]. In 94 articles (42.15%), the optimum pH ranged from 6 to 8.5, which is close to the

Table 3
Experimental conditions of the studies included in the meta–analysis

Type of adsorbent	Initial concentration (mg/L)	Optimum pH (–)	Optimum reaction time (min)	References
Guava leaves	20–40	4	60	Tay and Ong [45]
Metal–organic frameworks	301–100	6.8	39.95	Dehghan et al. [66]
V_2O_5/ZnO coated carbon nanofibers	10–200	6	20	Chaba and Nomngongo [118]
MIL-53 (Fe)-directed synthesis of hierarchically mesoporous carbon	10	4	120	Tran et al. [139]
Fly ash, activated carbon, bentonite and bagasse ash	31.3–66.2	–	360	Deb et al. [188]
Magnetite imprinted chitosan nanocomposite	1–50	6.5	200	Rasoulzadeh et al. [70]
Semi-fluid Fe/charcoal micro-electrolysis reactor	10–35	5.3	105	Mandizadeh et al. [129]
Pectin-functionalized magnetic nanoparticles	5–10	7	30	Attallah et al. [206]

values recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for discharging effluent for irrigation, which is an advantage for the process because it does not need to adjust the solution pH. In addition, in most studies, the optimum pH was 6.

4.4. Fitted kinetic and isotherm models

Kinetic equations are used to describe the transfer behavior of adsorbed molecules per time and study variables affecting the reaction rate [243]. In addition, models and equations of adsorption equilibrium isotherms are used to describe the adsorbent surface properties, provide insight into the adsorption process, and report experimental data [244]. Isotherms are also considered an important factor in designing adsorption systems and describing the relationship between the adsorbate concentration and adsorption capacity of an adsorbent [245]. It was found that in most articles, the adsorption data fitted well with the Langmuir isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models (Tables 1 and 2). However, some studies well fitted with Freundlich [28,31], Sips [33,52], Dubinin–Radushkevich [38,51,69], Redlich–Peterson [41,196], Brouers–Sotolongo [55,77], Hill and Toth [61], Temkin [165,203], Koble–Corrigan [111], Thomas and Yoon–Nelson [39], Liu [227], and Guggenheim Anderson and De Boer [241] isothermal models. Also, some studies well fitted with pseudo-first-order [29,39], intraparticle diffusion [63,94,156], Elovich [92,151], Boyd [91], and Avrami [227] kinetics models.

4.5. Thermodynamic model

The concept of thermodynamics hypothesizes that energy cannot be gained or lost and the entropy change is the driving force in an isolated system [243–245]. The results of reviewing the articles showed that a limited number of articles examined thermodynamics. In addition, in articles involving thermodynamics studies, the temperature and standard enthalpy change ($\Delta H°$) varied in the range of 273°K–388°K and –1,212.6–170.21 kJ/mol, respectively (Tables 1 and 2). We found few studies reported activation energy values (n = 4 articles). Although the process of ciprofloxacin adsorption in aqueous medium has been reported both physically and chemically. But in most studies, the process of ciprofloxacin adsorption was physical. A total of 53 papers examined thermodynamic parameters. According to the studies, the adsorption process of ciprofloxacin in aqueous medium was both endothermic (n = 35 articles) and exothermic (n = 17 articles). In one article, the process of ciprofloxacin adsorption was reported both exothermic and endothermic.

4.6. Adsorption capacity and removal efficiency

According to Tables 1 and 2, many papers reported an adsorption capacity greater than 100 mg/g. In the reviewed studies, the minimum and maximum adsorption capacities were related to birnessite (47 ng/g) [19] and C@silica core/shell nanoparticles from ZIF-8 (1,575 mg/g) [121], respectively.

A number of studies have shown high adsorption capacity, for example; Genç et al. [29] used bentonite adsorbent and initial concentrations of 50–500 mg/L to adsorb ciprofloxacin from water and reported adsorption capacity of 147.06 mg/g. In a study by Danalıoğlu et al. [30], chitosan grafted SiO_2–Fe_3O_4 nanoparticles and initial concentrations of 5–40 mg/L were used to remove ciprofloxacin from water showed an adsorption capacity of 100.74 mg/g. Moreover, the adsorption data fitted well with the Langmuir isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. Sousa et al. [31] used zinc oxide supported on SBA-15 type mesoporous silica and initial concentrations of 5–40 mg/L to adsorb ciprofloxacin from water and reported an optimum pH of 9 and adsorption capacity of 446.42 mg/g. In addition, the results of researchers have shown that the adsorption data fitted well with the Freundlich isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. In thermodynamic studies, they used a temperature of 298.15°K–318.15°K and obtained a $\Delta H°$ of 4.67. Yu et al. [38] used ethylene diaminetetraacetic acid–β-cyclodextrin and ciprofloxacin initial concentrations of 100 mg/L to adsorb from water and reported an optimum pH 4–5 and adsorption capacity of 335.8 mg/g. Moreover, the adsorption data fitted well

with the Dubinin–Radushkevich isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. In thermodynamic studies, researchers used a temperature of 298.15–318.15°K and obtained a $\Delta H°$ of –4.74. De Oliveira Carvalho et al. [227] used activated carbon produced from Jerivá and ciprofloxacin initial concentration of 100 mg/L to adsorb from wastewater. They reported an optimum pH of 7 and adsorption capacity of 335.8 mg/g. Also, the adsorption data fitted well with the Liu isotherm and the Avrami kinetic models. In thermodynamic studies, they used a temperature of 288°K–318°K and showed a $\Delta H°$ of 3.34. Aydin et al. [228] used magnetic Fe_3O_4/red mud-nanoparticles and ciprofloxacin initial concentration of 3 mg/L to adsorb from wastewater and reported an optimum pH 6.5 and adsorption capacity of 110.15 mg/g. In addition, the adsorption data fitted well with the Freundlich isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models.

In addition, a number of studies reported very low adsorption capacities, for example; Dube et al. [37] used perlite, coal fly ash, talc, and vermiculite as adsorbent and ciprofloxacin initial concentrations of 25–100 mg/L to adsorb from water and reported an optimum pH 3–4.5 and adsorption capacities of 0.81 to 11.93 mg/g. Also, the adsorption data fitted well with the Freundlich isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. In a study by Avcı et al. [41], in the use of activated carbon, montmorillonite, modified montmorillonite, and alumina as adsorbent and initial concentration of 4 mg/L to the removal of ciprofloxacin from water showed adsorption capacities of 0.6–1.86 mg/g. In research by Gao et al. [62], in the use of clickable azido periodic mesoporous organosilica as adsorbent and initial concentration of 0.1 mg/L to the removal of ciprofloxacin from water showed an adsorption capacity of 0.241 mg/g. Reynaud et al. [103] used spray-dried chitosan-metal microparticles adsorbent and initial concentrations of 25 to 400 mg/L to adsorb ciprofloxacin from water and reported adsorption capacities of 0.005–0.35 mg/g. Also, their results show that the adsorption data fitted well with the pseudo-second-order kinetic model.

A number of studies recorded removal efficiencies above 85%, for example; in a study by Malik et al. [231], functionalized magnetic nanoparticles and ciprofloxacin initial concentrations of 5–20 mg/L were used to remove from wastewater showed an optimum pH of 7 and removal efficiency of 85%. Moreover, the adsorption data fitted well with the Langmuir isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. García-Alonso et al. [35] used diatomaceous earth and an initial concentration of 20 mg/L to adsorb ciprofloxacin from water and reported a removal efficiency of 97%. In addition, the results of researchers have shown that the adsorption data fitted well with the Langmuir isotherm and the pseudo-second-order kinetic models. Dhiman and Sharma [39] used ZnO nanoparticles and ciprofloxacin initial concentrations of 10–100 mg/L to adsorb from water and reported an optimum pH 4 and removal efficiency of 85%. Moreover, the adsorption data fitted well with the Freundlich isotherm and the pseudo-first-order kinetic models. Wang et al. [65], used activated carbon fiber in combination with the electrochemical process to remove ciprofloxacin (initial concentration of 50 mg/L) from water media with an optimal pH of 7.4 and removal efficiencies of 98.9%–99.9%.

4.7. Meta-analysis

As shown in Fig. 4, the results of the meta-analysis revealed a mean ciprofloxacin removal efficiency of 59.32% (95% CI: 44.66–73.97) using the adsorption process.

5. Conclusion, recommendations, and perspectives

The available literature reviewed here has shown a growing interest in recent years in adsorption process application for the removal of ciprofloxacin from aqueous media. Although a wide range of adsorbents has been used to adsorb ciprofloxacin over the past decade, magnesium oxide/chitosan/graphene oxide nanoparticles, magnetic nanosorbents with siliceous hybrid shells of alginic acid and carrageenan and C@silica core/shell nanoparticles from ZIF-8 had shown a better performance (adsorption capacity > 1,000 mg/g). The highest adsorption capacity reported for ciprofloxacin was 1,575 mg/g for C@silica core/shell nanoparticles from ZIF-8. In 94 articles (42.15%), the pH ranged from 6 to 8.5, which is close to the values suggested by the WHO, EPA, and FAO for discharging effluent for irrigation. This review has successfully elucidated the progress in ciprofloxacin removal. It can be concluded that adsorption is an effective technique of mitigating ciprofloxacin pollution in the aqueous media. In addition, regarding the importance of selecting environmentally friendly processes, the use of natural adsorbents and green synthesis methods can be suggested.

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Author contributions

M.N. and M.F. conceived of the presented idea. M.N. developed the theory and performed the computations. M.A.M. and M.O.M. verified the analytical methods. M.O.M. encouraged M.N. to investigate and supervised the findings of this work. All authors discussed the results and contributed to the final manuscript.

Data availability

The datasets generated and/or analyzed during the current study are not publicly available due authors are currently analyzing for further work but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Compliance with ethical standards

Conflict of interest: The author has no conflicts of interest or competing for financial interests to declare. This

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Ethics statements: Ethics approval, consent to participate, consent for publication, and availability of data and material are not applicable for this manuscript.

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