

Supplementary Information

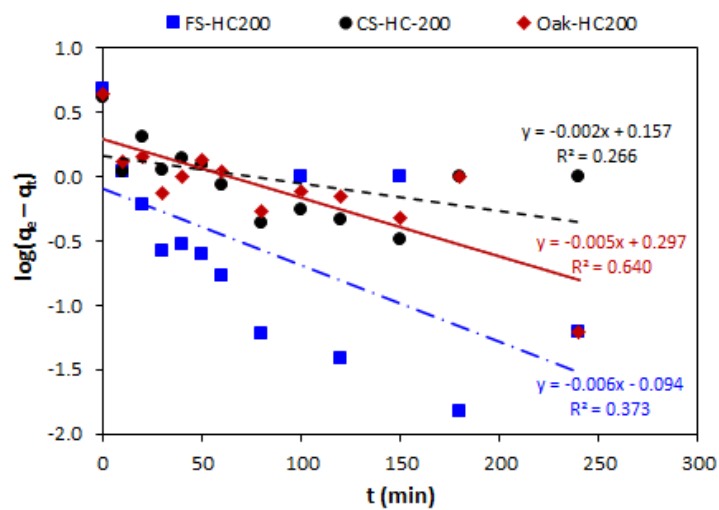
Modelling and Optimisation of Methylene Blue Adsorption using *Fucus Serratus*, Coconut Shell and Oak Hydrochars

E. Danso-Boateng^{1*}, M. Fitzsimmons¹, A. B. Ross¹, T. Mariner¹

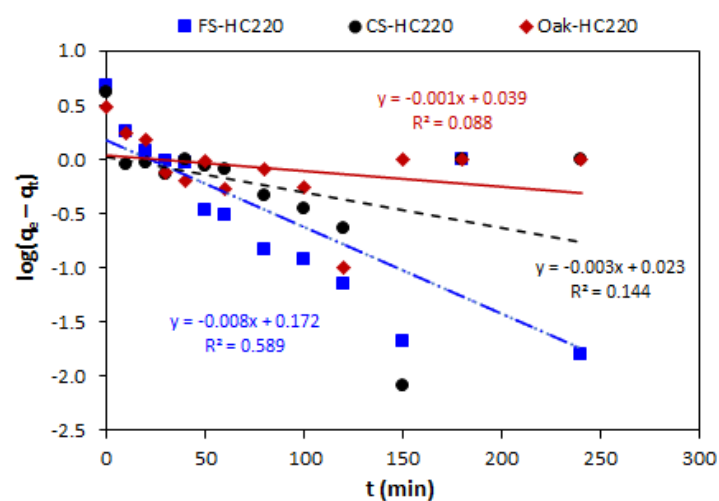
¹School of Chemical and Process Engineering, University of Leeds, LS2 9JT, UK

*Corresponding author: e.danso-boateng@leeds.ac.uk

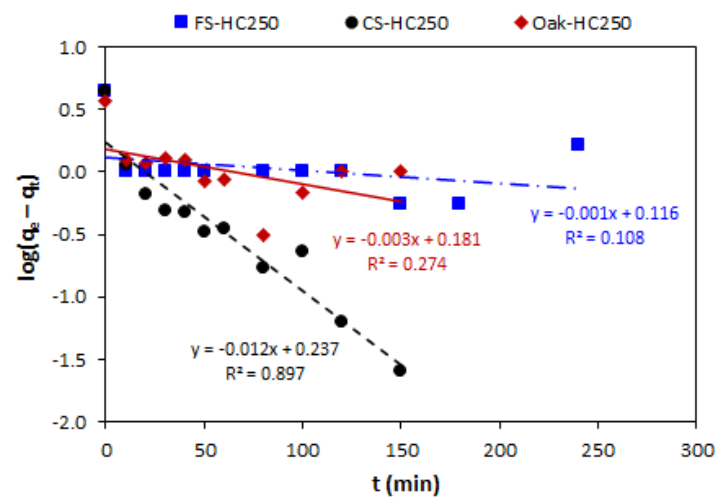
ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-3555-3118>



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure S1. Pseudo first-order adsorption kinetics plots for hydrochars produced at: (a) 200 °C; (b) 220 °C; and (c) 250 °C.

Table S1. Pseudo first-order kinetic parameters for adsorption of MB dye onto FS, CS, and Oak hydrochars.

| Adsorbent | Pseudo first-order | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | k_1 (min ⁻¹) | q_e (mg/g) | R^2 |
| FS-HC200 | 0.006 | 0.81 | 0.37 |
| CS-HC200 | 0.002 | 1.44 | 0.27 |
| Oak-HC200 | 0.005 | 1.98 | 0.64 |
| FS-HC220 | 0.008 | 1.49 | 0.59 |
| CS-HC220 | -0.003 | 1.05 | 0.14 |
| Oak-HC220 | 0.001 | 1.09 | 0.09 |
| FS-HC250 | 0.001 | 1.31 | 0.11 |
| CS-HC250 | 0.012 | 1.73 | 0.90 |
| Oak-HC250 | 0.003 | 1.52 | 0.27 |

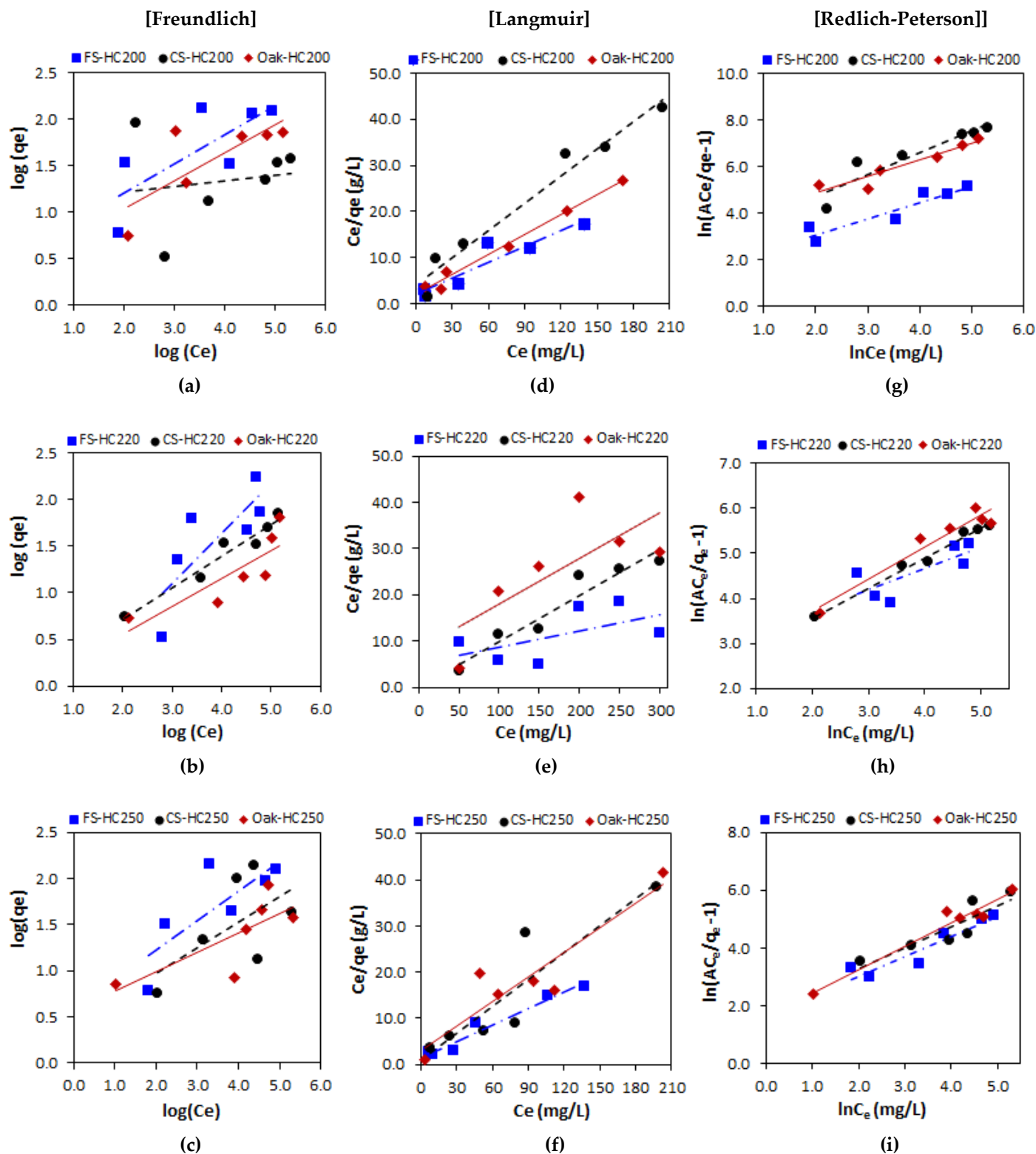


Figure S2. Freundlich (a–c), Langmuir (d–f), and Redlich-Peterson (g–i) adsorption isotherm models of MB on FS-HCs, CS-HCs and Oak-HCs produced at (a, d, g) 200 °C; (b, e, h) 220 °C; and (c, f, i) 250 °C.

Table S2. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for initial concentration models.

| Source | Sum of squares | DF | Mean square | F value | P value | |
|---|----------------|----|-------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| <i>Adsorption capacity - FS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Linear | 234.70 | 2 | 117.35 | 47.23 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| HTC Temperature (T) | 0.2701 | 1 | 0.2701 | 0.1087 | 0.7430 | not significant |
| Initial concentration (C ₀) | 234.70 | 1 | 234.70 | 94.47 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 124.22 | 50 | 2.48 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 47.75 | 15 | 3.18 | 1.46 | 0.1759 | not significant |
| Pure Error | 76.47 | 35 | 2.18 | | | |
| Corrected total | 358.52 | 52 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.654 | | | | | |
| <i>Percentage removal - FS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Linear | 4987.66 | 2 | 2493.83 | 10.73 | 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 46.75 | 1 | 46.75 | 0.2011 | 0.6558 | not significant |
| Initial concentration (C ₀) | 4898.42 | 1 | 4898.42 | 21.07 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 11624.49 | 50 | 232.49 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 5372.27 | 15 | 358.15 | 2.00 | 0.0449 | significant |
| Pure Error | 6252.22 | 35 | 178.63 | | | |
| Corrected total | 16612.15 | 52 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.300 | | | | | |
| <i>Adsorption capacity - CS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 97.00 | 5 | 19.40 | 8.79 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 2.43 | 1 | 2.43 | 1.10 | 0.2991 | not significant |
| Initial concentration (C ₀) | 77.24 | 1 | 77.24 | 35.01 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| TC ₀ | 1.91 | 1 | 1.91 | 0.8665 | 0.3566 | not significant |
| T ² | 0.0006 | 1 | 0.0006 | 0.0003 | 0.9872 | not significant |
| C ₀ ² | 16.85 | 1 | 16.85 | 7.64 | 0.0081 | significant |
| Residual | 105.90 | 48 | 2.21 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 52.48 | 12 | 4.37 | 2.95 | 0.0060 | significant |
| Pure Error | 53.42 | 36 | 1.48 | | | |
| Corrected total | 202.90 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.478 | | | | | |
| <i>Removal efficiency - CS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Linear | 10537.97 | 2 | 5268.99 | 17.30 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 661.34 | 1 | 661.34 | 2.17 | 0.1467 | not significant |
| Initial concentration (C ₀) | 9876.64 | 1 | 9876.64 | 32.43 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 15531.82 | 51 | 304.55 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 8922.67 | 15 | 594.84 | 3.24 | 0.0019 | significant |
| Pure Error | 6609.15 | 36 | 183.59 | | | |
| Corrected total | 26069.80 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.404 | | | | | |

Non-significant lack of fit is required. FS = Fucus Serratus hydrochar; CS = Coconut shell hydrochar; Oak = Oak hydrochar.

Table S2. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for initial concentration models – Continues.

| Source | Sum of squares | DF | Mean square | F value | P value | |
|---|----------------|----|-------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| <i>Adsorption capacity - Oak</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 123.16 | 5 | 24.63 | 14.34 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 9.45 | 1 | 9.45 | 5.50 | 0.0232 | significant |
| Initial concentration (C ₀) | 89.58 | 1 | 89.58 | 52.15 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| TC ₀ | 0.0348 | 1 | 0.0348 | 0.0202 | 0.8874 | not significant |
| T ² | 20.30 | 1 | 20.30 | 11.82 | 0.0012 | significant |
| C ₀ ² | 6.32 | 1 | 6.32 | 3.68 | 0.0611 | not significant |
| Residual | 82.44 | 48 | 1.72 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 27.51 | 12 | 2.29 | 1.50 | 0.1686 | not significant |
| Pure Error | 54.94 | 36 | 1.53 | | | |
| Corrected total | 205.60 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.599 | | | | | |
| <i>Percentage removal -Oak</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 14310.34 | 5 | 2862.07 | 13.20 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 836.80 | 1 | 836.80 | 3.86 | 0.0553 | not significant |
| Initial concentration (C ₀) | 10450.94 | 1 | 10450.94 | 48.20 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| TC ₀ | 0.0069 | 1 | 0.0069 | 0.0000 | 0.9955 | not significant |
| T ² | 2588.33 | 1 | 2588.33 | 11.94 | 0.0012 | significant |
| C ₀ ² | 660.59 | 1 | 660.59 | 3.05 | 0.0873 | not significant |
| Residual | 10406.95 | 48 | 216.81 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 4796.91 | 12 | 399.74 | 2.57 | 0.0144 | significant |
| Pure Error | 5610.04 | 36 | 155.83 | | | |
| Corrected total | 24717.29 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.579 | | | | | |

Non-significant lack of fit is good. FS = Fucus Serratus hydrochar; CS = Coconut shell hydrochar; Oak = Oak hydrochar.

Table S3. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for initial pH models.

| Source | Sum of squares | DF | Mean square | F value | P value | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----|-------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| <i>Percentage removal - FS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 1764.87 | 5 | 352.97 | 6.62 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| HTC Temperature (T) | 808.93 | 1 | 808.93 | 15.17 | 0.0003 | significant |
| Initial pH (pH) | 185.52 | 1 | 185.52 | 3.48 | 0.0682 | not significant |
| T.pH | 348.37 | 1 | 348.37 | 6.53 | 0.0138 | significant |
| T ² | 15.15 | 1 | 15.15 | 0.2842 | 0.5964 | not significant |
| pH ² | 459.51 | 1 | 459.51 | 8.62 | 0.0051 | significant |
| Residual | 2559.10 | 48 | 53.31 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 1570.07 | 12 | 130.84 | 4.76 | 0.0001 | significant |
| Pure Error | 989.03 | 36 | 27.47 | | | |
| Corrected total | 4323.97 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.408 | | | | | |
| <i>Percentage removal - CS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: 2FI | 7232.86 | 3 | 2410.95 | 9.26 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 86.17 | 1 | 86.17 | 0.3309 | 0.5677 | not significant |
| Initial pH (pH) | 6316.58 | 1 | 6316.58 | 24.26 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| T.pH | 1235.01 | 1 | 1235.01 | 4.74 | 0.0342 | significant |
| Residual | 13018.43 | 50 | 260.37 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 9656.74 | 14 | 689.77 | 7.39 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Pure Error | 3361.69 | 36 | 93.38 | | | |
| Corrected total | 20251.29 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.357 | | | | | |
| <i>Removal efficiency - Oak</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Linear | 9456.24 | 2 | 4728.12 | 46.25 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Temperature (T) | 411.40 | 1 | 411.40 | 4.02 | 0.0502 | |
| Initial pH (pH) | 9044.84 | 1 | 9044.84 | 88.48 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 5213.27 | 51 | 102.22 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 2107.56 | 15 | 140.50 | 1.63 | 0.1144 | not significant |
| Pure Error | 3105.71 | 36 | 86.27 | | | |
| Corrected total | 14669.51 | 53 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.645 | | | | | |

Non-significant lack of fit is required. FS = Fucus Serratus hydrochar; CS = Coconut shell hydrochar; Oak = Oak hydrochar.

Table S4. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for contact time models.

| Source | Sum of squares | DF | Mean square | F value | P value | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----|-------------|---------|----------|-----------------|
| <i>Percentage removal - FS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 35124.46 | 5 | 7024.89 | 19.30 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| HTC Temperature (T) | 1562.68 | 1 | 1562.68 | 4.29 | 0.0406 | significant |
| Contact time (t) | 6211.25 | 1 | 6211.25 | 17.07 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Tt | 1748.71 | 1 | 1748.71 | 4.81 | 0.0305 | significant |
| T ² | 530.58 | 1 | 530.58 | 1.46 | 0.2298 | not significant |
| t ² | 19079.58 | 1 | 19079.58 | 52.43 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 40393.07 | 111 | 363.90 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 38466.70 | 33 | 1165.66 | 47.20 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Pure Error | 1926.37 | 78 | 24.70 | | | |
| Corrected total | 75517.53 | 116 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.465 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Percentage removal - CS</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 34858.10 | 5 | 6971.62 | 28.97 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| HTC Temperature (T) | 2233.14 | 1 | 2233.14 | 9.28 | 0.0029 | significant |
| Contact time (t) | 15143.77 | 1 | 15143.77 | 62.93 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Tt | 180.87 | 1 | 180.87 | 0.7516 | 0.3879 | not significant |
| T ² | 0.9238 | 1 | 0.9238 | 0.0038 | 0.9507 | not significant |
| t ² | 8825.64 | 1 | 8825.64 | 36.67 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 26712.85 | 111 | 240.66 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 23609.20 | 33 | 715.43 | 17.98 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Pure Error | 3103.65 | 78 | 39.79 | | | |
| Corrected total | 61570.95 | 116 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.566 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| <i>Removal efficiency - Oak</i> | | | | | | |
| Model: Quadratic | 37580.10 | 5 | 7516.02 | 35.50 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| HTC Temperature (T) | 2373.70 | 1 | 2373.70 | 11.21 | 0.0011 | significant |
| Contact time (t) | 17635.89 | 1 | 17635.89 | 83.29 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Tt | 34.96 | 1 | 34.96 | 0.1651 | 0.6853 | not significant |
| T ² | 7070.94 | 1 | 7070.94 | 33.39 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| t ² | 5169.98 | 1 | 5169.98 | 24.42 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Residual | 23502.98 | 111 | 211.74 | | | |
| Lack of fit | 17723.88 | 33 | 537.09 | 7.25 | < 0.0001 | significant |
| Pure Error | 5779.10 | 78 | 74.09 | | | |
| Corrected total | 61083.08 | 116 | | | | |
| R ² | 0.615 | | | | | |

Non-significant lack of fit is required. FS = Fucus Serratus hydrochar; CS = Coconut shell hydrochar; Oak = Oak hydrochar.

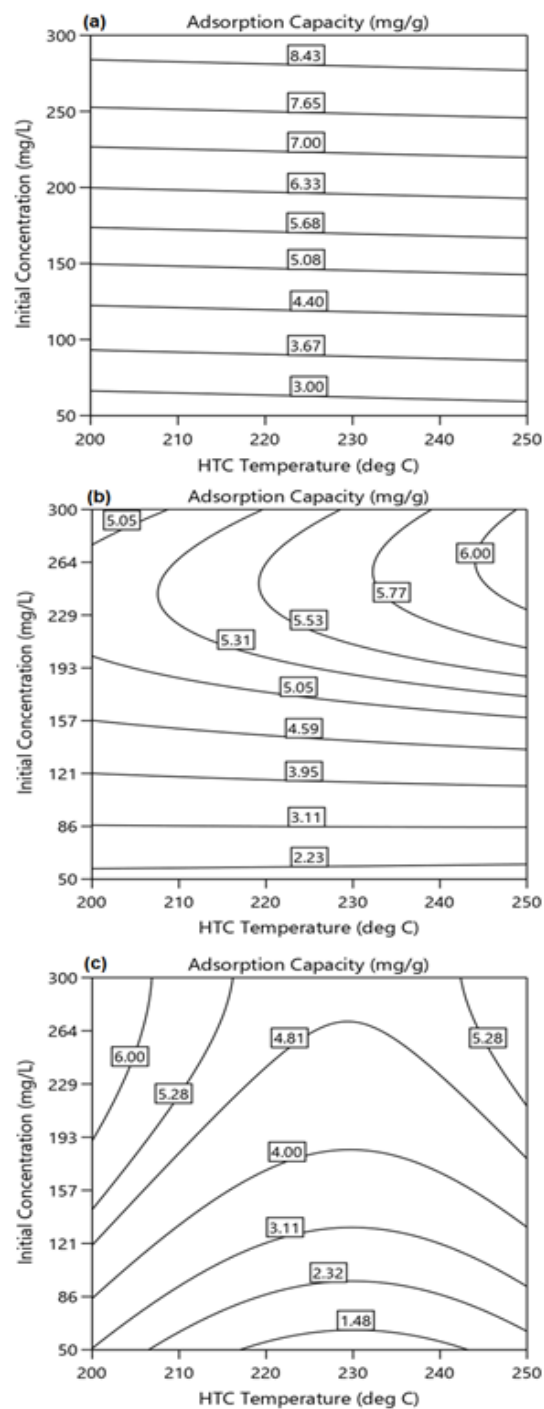


Figure S3. Contour plots showing the effect of initial MB dye concentration and HTC temperature on adsorption capacity: (a) FS-HCs; (b) CS-HCs; and (c) Oak-HCs.

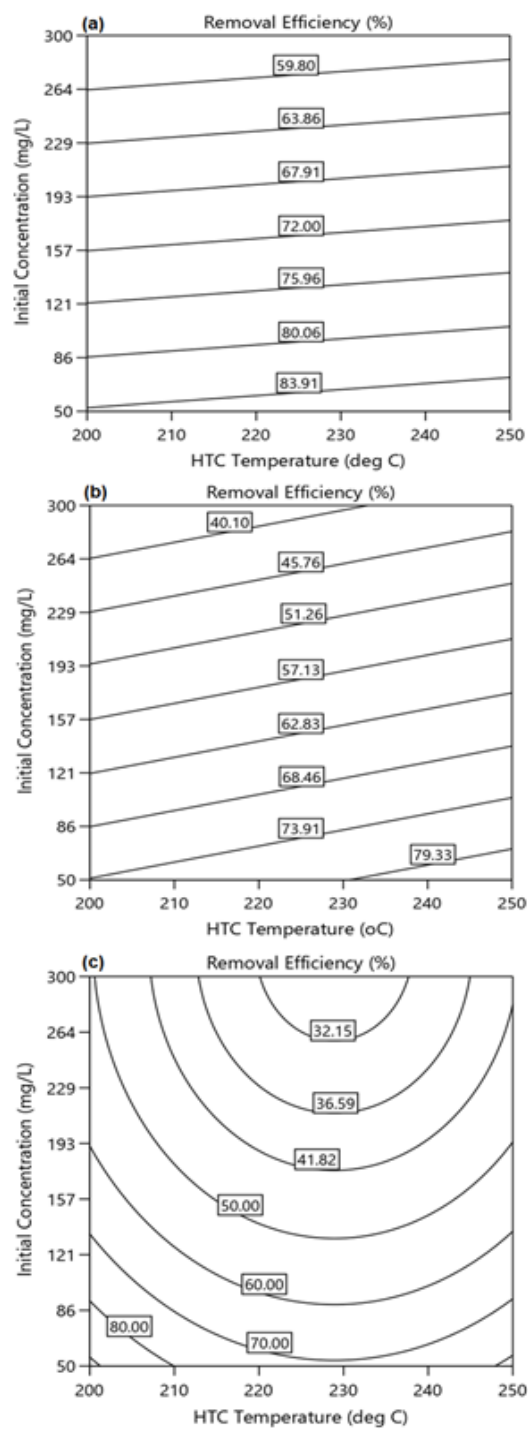


Figure S4. Contour plots showing the effect of initial MB concentration and HTC temperature on adsorption removal efficiency: (a) FS-HCs; (b) CS-HCs; and (c) Oak-HCs.

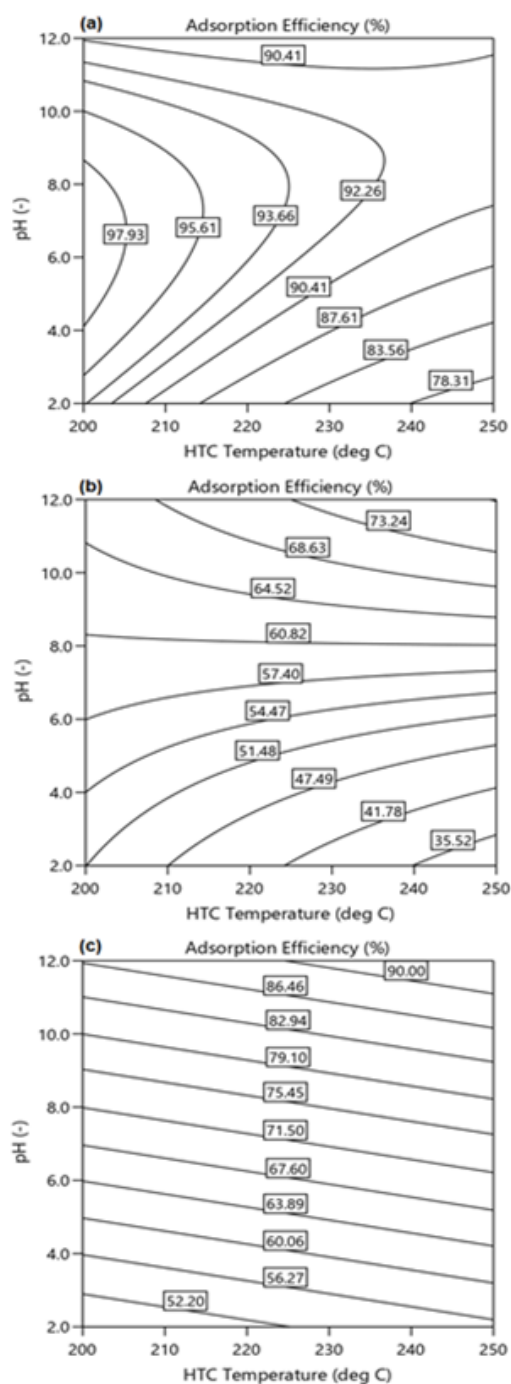


Figure S5. Contour plots showing the effect of solution pH and HTC temperature on adsorption removal efficiency: (a) FS-HCs; (b) CS-HCs; and (c) Oak-HCs.

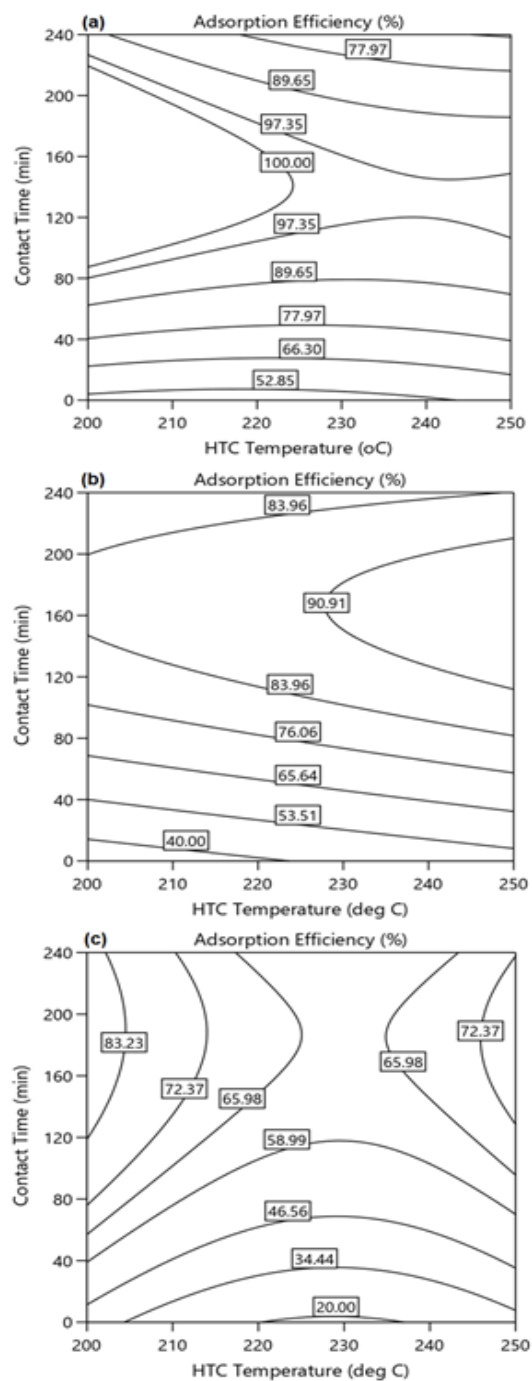


Figure S6. Contour plots showing the effect of adsorption time and HTC temperature on adsorption removal efficiency: (a) FS-HCs; (b) CS-HCs; and (c) Oak-HCs.