

## The Decolourization of a Chemical Industry Effluent through Adsorption over Waste Materials

Dunya Edan Al-Mammar

Department of Chemistry, College of Science, Baghdad University, Baghdad, Iraq.

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**Abstract :** Adsorption of three type of industrial dyes such as direct blue DB (anionic dye) , safranin O SAF (cationic dye) ,and disperse blue DIB as (nonionic dye) on chromium contained leatherwaste CCLW as adsorbent was studied .Batch adsorption experiments were carried out for the removal of these three dyes from its aqueous solution onto CCLW . The adsorption reaches the equilibrium at 60 min. The removal percentage for these dyes decreased with increase in the initial dye concentration . The removal efficiency for anionic dye DB is higher than SAF ad DIB dye. According to Gile's classification of the adsorption isotherm L-type isotherm was observed. The Langmuir, frundlich , Dubinin –Radushkevich (D–R) , and Temkin isotherm equations were applied to the data and values of parameters of these isotherm equations were evaluated. The  $R_L$  for the three dyes lie between 0 and 1, this suggest the applicability of CCLW for dyes removal. Based on the mean free energy calculated from D-R isotherm constant, the adsorption is chemisorption in nature.

**Keywords:** Direct blue, Safranin O, Disperse blue, Adsorption

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### I. Introduction

Some industries have shown a significant increase in the use of synthetic complex organic dyes as coloring materials [1]. Some of dyes have a potential of mutagenity, carcinogenity and toxicity [2]. The dye removal has been in considerable attention over the past decades of dye treatment in the wastewater before release to natural stream [3]. Several physical chemical methods, e.g, precipitation and coagulation, filtration, oxidation and adsorption have been used for treatment of such effluents [4]. Adsorption techniques are more economic when the cheap adsorbents such pumice stone, rice husk [5], tea water [6], a pricot waste [7], cane waste [8], wood [9], clays [10], cellulosic materials [11] were used. The tanning treatments to products the wet blue leather yield sludge containing approximately 3% (w/w) of chromium. The method commonly used for this waste disposal present high operational costs [12,13]. Re-destining this solid waste from the tanning industry as adsorbent to other contaminants is an interesting alternative to (i) eliminate their harmful effect on the environment and (ii) provide a profitable use of these materials [14,15]. The objective of this work was to study the removal of several organic compounds such as direct blue, safranin O, and disperse blue from aqueous solution by adsorption on chromium containing leatherwaste generated in the leather industry. In order to describe the adsorption process several isotherm models were used .

### II. Material and method

**Adsorbent:** the chromium contained leather waste (CCLW) was obtained from AL-WAFFA company for leathers tanning , were cut into a small pieces washed with distilled water and dried at 120 °C for 3 hours and finally kept in desicator.

**Adsorbate:** the dyes were used in this work obtain from Aldrich and used without any further purification. The characterization and structure of DB, SAF and DIB dye are given in Table (1) and Fig. (1). A stock solution of these dyes was prepared by dissolving 0.1 gm in one litter distilled water.

**A**

**Adsorption procedure:** Adsorption experiments were conducted in which aliquots of dye solution, with known concentrations, (10, 25, 50, 75 and 100 mg/l) were introduced into round bottom flasks containing accurately weighted amount 0.25 gm of the adsorbent with 25 ml solution dye. The bottles were shaken at 25°C for one hour, the adsorbent was then removed by centrifuge at 4000rpm. The equilibrium concentrations of dyes were determined by a UV-Visible spectrometer (Shimadzu, Japan). The UV-Visible absorption spectrum For 10 mg/l of DB dye was shown in Fig. (2). The amount of adsorbed dyes were calculated with the following equation:  
$$q_e = (C_o - C_t) V/W \quad (1)$$

Where  $C_o$  is the initial adsorbate concentration,  $C_t$  the equilibrium concentration is solution at time (t) ,  $V$  the solution volume (L) and (W) is the adsorbent weight (g). The percentage of dye removal from solution was calculated using the equation:

$$R\% = (C_o - C_t) 100/C_o \quad (2)$$

### III. Result and Discussion

**3.1 Effect of initial dye concentration:** The experimental results of adsorption of three dyes at various concentrations (10, 25, 50, 75, 100 mg/l) at 298K are shown in Fig. (3). The removal percentage decreased with increase in initial dye concentration. It means that the adsorption is highly dependent on initial concentration of dye. It is because of that at lower concentration, the ratio of the initial number of dye molecules to the available surface area is low, subsequently the fraction adsorption becomes independent of initial concentration. However at high concentration the available sites of adsorption becomes fewer and hence the percentage removal of dye is dependent upon initial concentration [16]. It can be seen that the three dyes with different structures present varying removal percentage. The anionic dye DB higher than cationic dye SAF and the nonionic dye DIB has lower values than for the other dyes. This can be explained by that the adsorption at solid liquid interface is strongly influenced by the charged groups on the surface [17]. The active sites of collagen are mainly carboxyl and amino groups but most of carboxyl groups on collagen had been blocked by Cr (III) through the complex reaction after tanning. Therefore the predominant active sites of chromium containing leather waste should be amino and Cr (III) has the potential to associate with anionic groups through electrostatic interaction. So the removal efficiency for anionic dye DB is significantly high. However SAF is cationic dye and the adsorption mainly depends on its association with the limited residual carboxyl groups on collagen. Moreover, Electrostatic repulsion may exist between positively charged adsorbent and the nonionic dye disperse blue is due to affinity between the adsorbent and adsorbate.

**3.2 Effect of shaking time:** The time dependent behavior of dye adsorption was examined by varying the contact time between adsorbate and adsorbent in the range of 10-70 min. The concentrations of dye were kept at 0.1 mg L<sup>-1</sup> while the amount of adsorbents added was 0.25 g and the temperature 298K. The amount of adsorption plotted against contact time Fig.(4). The curves show that the adsorption reaches the equilibrium at 60 min contact time. There is a quick increase in the curves during the initial contact stages between adsorbent and solution. The fast adsorption and a short period of time to reach the equilibrium constitute the first indication that the adsorbent is suitable for removal of these three dyes from wastewater. The plateau reached in all the cases shows that the adsorbent surface is saturated from this point onward and there is a limited number of active sites which become occupied with time. Furthermore the curves are distinctive, smooth and continuous indicating that the adsorbent surface is covered with a monolayer of dye molecules [18].

**3.3 Adsorption isotherm:** The results concerning dye adsorption for the three dyes are presented in fig. (5-7). It is obvious from these figures that the adsorption isotherms of these dyes on the CCLW are L-type according to the Giels Classification [19]. In this type of isotherm, the initial portion provides information about the active sites to the adsorbate and the plateau signifies the monolayer information. The initial curvature indicates that a large amount of dye is adsorbed at a lower concentration as more active sites of CCLW are available. As the concentration increases, it becomes difficult for a dye molecule to find vacant sites, and so monolayer formation occurs. The types of system which give this curve do in fact fulfil these conditions. Thus they have one of the following characteristics (i) the adsorbed molecules are most likely to be adsorbed flat or (ii) if adsorbed end-on, they suffer little solvent competition. Examples of (ii) are: (a) systems with highly polar solute and adsorbent, and a non polar solvent and (b) systems with mono functional ionic substances with very strong intermolecular attraction. It is possible that in the system (b) cases the adsorbed ions may have become associated into very large clusters and just adsorption takes place. Where the sites are few and widely separated, the surface has large hydrophobic regions [20]. The Langmuir, Freundlich, Dubinin – Radushkevich and Temkins isotherm were applied in this study [21].

**1- Langmuir models:** The Langmuir model was originally developed to describe the adsorption of gas into a solid surface. It suggests the formation of monolayer adsorption and also the surface is energetically homogeneous. The Langmuir isotherm can be expressed [22] as:

$$q_e = q_{\max} K_L C_e / (1 + K_L C_e) \quad (3)$$

Where  $C_e$  the concentration of dye remaining in solution at equilibrium (mg L<sup>-1</sup>),  $q_e$  is the amount of dye adsorbed mg.g<sup>-1</sup>,  $q_{\max}$  amount of dye adsorbed per unit weight of adsorbent in forming a complete monolayer on surface mg.g<sup>-1</sup> (maximum adsorption capacity) and  $K_L$  Langmuir isotherm constant (L/mg) which related to energy of adsorption. Langmuir adsorption parameters were determined by transforming the Langmuir equation (3) into linear form.

$$C_e/q_e = 1/K_L q_{\max} + C_e/q_{\max} \quad (4)$$

The values of  $q_{max}$ ,  $K_L$  were obtained from the slope and intercept of the plot  $C_e/q_e$  against  $C_e$  shown in Fig.(8) and the Langmuir isotherm parameters are given in Table(2). As it can be seen most of the adsorption isotherms fitted the Langmuir equation with correlation coefficients  $R > 0.99$ . The value of monolayer coverage of CCLW by these dyes increased in the order:  $q_{max}$  for SAF  $> q_{max}$  for DB  $> q_{max}$  for DIB. The essential features of the Langmuir isotherm may be expressed in terms of equilibrium parameter  $R_L$ , which is a dimensionless constant referred to a separation factor or equilibrium parameter.

$$R_L = 1 / (1 + K_L C_o) \quad (5)$$

The value of separation factor  $R_L$  indicates the nature of the adsorption process as given below:

$R_L > 1$  unfavorable,  $R_L = 1$  linear,  $0 < R_L < 1$  favorable,  $R_L = 0$  irreversible. Table (3) shows Langmuir  $R_L$  values for the dyes. The  $R_L$  values obtained at all initial concentration for the three dyes lie between 0 and 1. This suggests the applicability of CCLW for dyes removal.

**2- Freundlich Adsorption isotherm:** This is commonly used to describe the adsorption characteristic for the heterogeneous surface. The Freundlich equation is expressed as [23]

$$q_e = K_f C_e^{1/n} \quad (6)$$

Where  $K_f$  is the measure of adsorption capacity and  $n$  is the adsorption intensity. Linear form of Freundlich equation is:

$$\log q_e = \log K_f + \frac{1}{n} \log C_e \quad (7)$$

A plot of  $\log q_e$  vs  $\log C_e$  Fig.(9), gives a linear trace with a slope of  $1/n$  and intercept of  $\log K_f$  and the results are given in Table (4). It has been shown that  $n$  values between 1 and 10 represent beneficial adsorption. The value of  $n$  is greater than 1.0 indicating the adsorption of these dyes onto CCLW is favorable. Langmuir model is more appropriate to explain the nature of adsorption with correlation coefficient of 0.995 to 0.9969 rather than Freundlich shows poor fit  $R = 0.9782$  to  $0.9871$ .

**3- Dubinin - Raduchkevich isotherm:** D-R isotherm is generally applied to express the adsorption mechanism Gaussian energy distribution onto a heterogeneous surface [24]. The model has often successfully fit solute activities and the intermediate range of concentrations data well.

$$q_e = q_D \cdot e^{-B \epsilon^2} \quad (8)$$

Linear form of D- R isotherm is

$$\ln q_e = \ln q_D - B \epsilon^2 \quad (9)$$

$q_D$  is the theoretical saturation capacity (mg/g),  $B$  is a constant related to the mean free energy of adsorption per mole of the adsorbate ( $\text{mol}^2/\text{J}^2$ ) and  $\epsilon$  is Polanyi potential which is related to the equilibrium as follows

$$\epsilon = RT \ln (1 + 1/C_e) \quad (10)$$

The plots of  $\ln q_e$  against  $\epsilon^2$  are shown in Fig. (10). The parameters  $q_D$  and  $B$  obtained from the intercepts and slopes of these plots given in Table (5). The mean free energy of adsorption  $E$ , can be calculated using the relation:

$$E = \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2B}} \right] \quad (11)$$

The determined values of  $E$  are presented in Table(4). Based on this energy of activation we can predict whether an adsorption is physisorption or chemisorption. If the energy of activation is  $< 8 \text{ KJ/mol}$ , the adsorption is physisorption and if the energy of adsorption is chemisorption in nature [25]. Based on the mean free energy calculated, we can predict that the adsorption of these dyes onto CCLW is chemisorption in nature.

**4- The Temkin isotherm :** This isotherm contains a factor that explicitly taking into the account of adsorbate interaction by ignoring the extremely and large value of concentrations, the model assumes that heat of adsorption (function of temperature) of all molecules in the larger would decrease linearly rather than logarithmic with coverage [26]. As implied in the equation, its derivation is characterized by a uniform distribution of binding energies (up to some maximum binding energy) was carried out by plotting the quantity sorbed  $q_e$ ,  $\ln C_e$  and the constants were determined from the slope and intercept.

The model is given by the following equation:

$$q_e = RT/b_T \ln(A_T C_e) \quad (12)$$

$$q_e = RT/b_T \ln A_T + (RT/b_T) \ln C_e \quad (13)$$

Where :

$$B = RT/b_T \text{ in (J/mol)} \quad (14)$$

The isotherm is represented by the following linear form:

$$q_e = B \ln A_T + B \ln C_e \quad (15)$$

$b_T$  is the Temkin isotherm constant while  $A_T$  is the equilibrium binding constant. A plot of  $q_e$  against  $\ln C_e$  in Fig. (11) and the constants are present in Table (6)

#### IV. Table and Figure

**Table (1)** Physical properties and molecular structure of the dyes

Dye name Classification Chemical formula IUPAC name Molecular weight $\lambda_{max}$ solubility	Direct blue Nonionic dye $C_{34}H_{24}N_5Na_{40}O_{16}S_4$ (6E)-4- amino -6-[4-[4-[N-(8-amino-1-oxo-5,7-disulfonato-2 naphthylidene) hydrazino]-3-methoxy-phenyl]-2- methoxy -phenyl] hydrozono]-5-oxo naphthalene -1,3 disulfonate
Dye name classification chemical formula IUPAC name Molecular weight $\lambda_{max}$ solubility	Safranin O (SAF) Cationic dye $C_{20}H_{19}N_4^+Cl^-$ 3,7 - diamino - 2,8 - dimethyl -5- phenyl-phenazinium chloride
Dye name classification chemical formula IUPAC name Molecular weight $\lambda_{max}$ solubility	Disperse blue Nonionic dye 1,8 - Dihydroxy - 4-nitro -5-(N-(phenethyl alcohol) Amino) anthraquinone . 420 g 575 nm water

**Table (2)** Langmuir isotherms constants for the adsorption of dyes

Dye	$q_{max}$ mg.g <sup>-1</sup>	$K_L$ (L.mg <sup>-1</sup> )	R
DB	7.9808	0.47606	0.9969
SAF	8.0321	0.1960	0.995
DIB	0.1368	0.999	0.9952

**Table (3)** Langmuir  $R_L$  values for three dyes

Co/ppm	dye	10	25	50	75	100
$R_L$	DB	0.1736	0.0775	0.0403	0.02724	0.0205
	SAF	0.3378	0.1695	0.0926	0.064	0.0485
	DIB	0.0909	0.03896	0.0196	0.01315	0.009

**Table (4)** Freundlich isotherm constants for the adsorption of the dyes

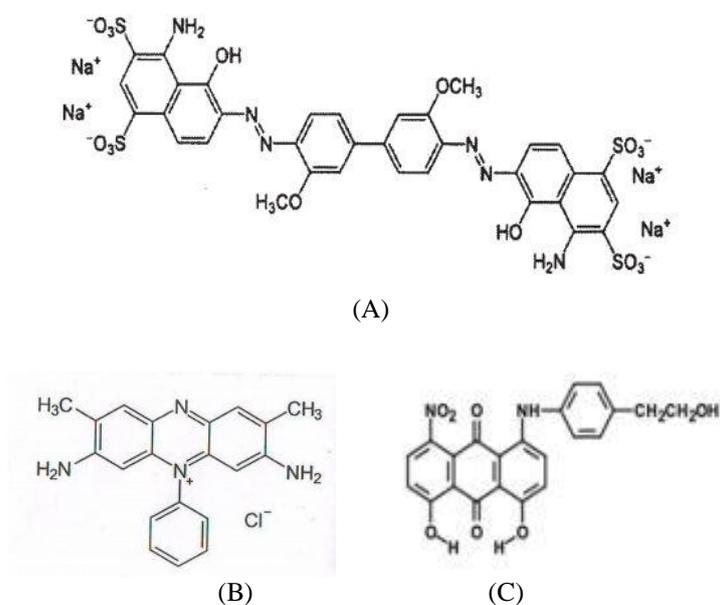
dye	1/n	n	$K_f$ mg/g	R
DB	0.407	2.457	2.504	0.9782
SAF	2.1222	0.4712	0.39117	0.9799
DIB	3.3818	0.2957	24.589	0.9871

**Table (5)** D-R isotherm parameters and mean energy of adsorption of dyes

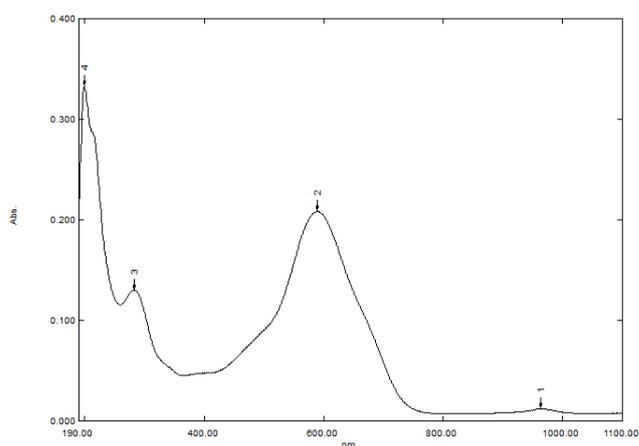
Dye	$q_D$ (mg . g <sup>-1</sup> )	B (mol <sup>2</sup> / K J <sup>2</sup> )	E (K J mol <sup>-1</sup> )	R
DB	5.3720	0.0031	12.7	0.8229
SAF	4.8788	0.002	15.8114	0.858
DIB	1.1959	0.007	8.4515	0.6521

**Table (6)** Temkin isotherm constants for the adsorption of the dyes

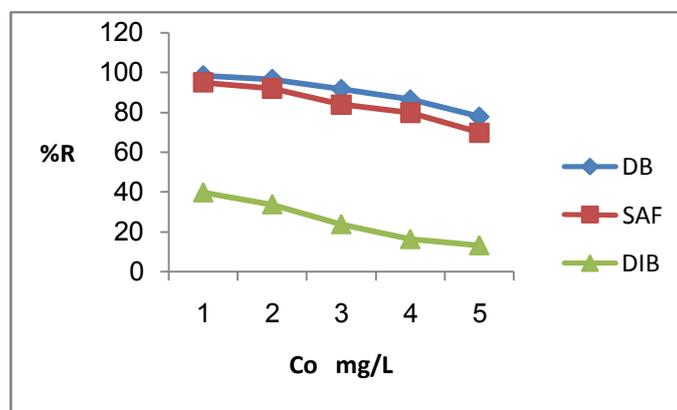
Dye	$A_T$ (L/g)	$b_T$ (J/mg)	B(J/mol)	R
DB	12.0480	1851	1.3383	0.983
SAF	3.1990	1687.8	1.4679	0.9622
DIB	1.5750	10588	0.2939	0.9822



**Fig (1)** chemical structure of the dyes (A) DB (B)SAF (C)DIB



**Fig (2)** UV-visible absorption spectrum for 10 mg/L DB dye



**Fig (3)** The effect of initial dye concentration on the desorption of the studied dyes at 298 K.

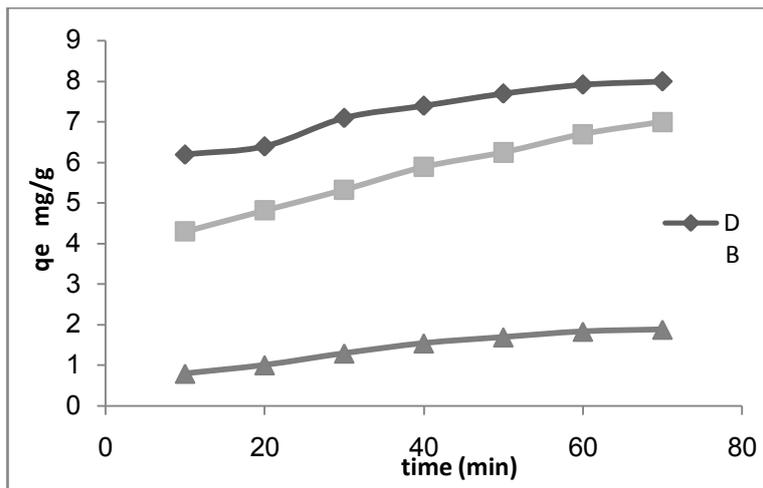


Fig (4) The effect of contact time on the adsorption of the studies dyes at 298 K and  $c_0 = 100 \text{ mg L}^{-1}$ .

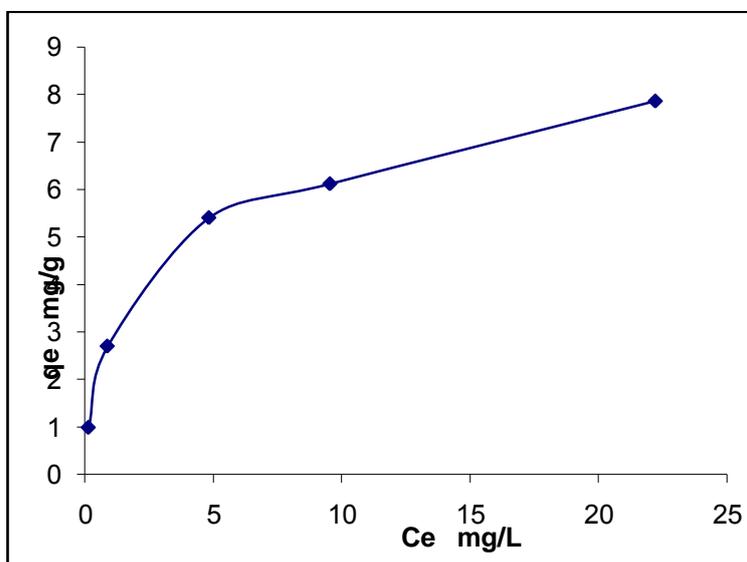


Fig (5) Adsorption isotherm for DB dyes on to CCLW at K.

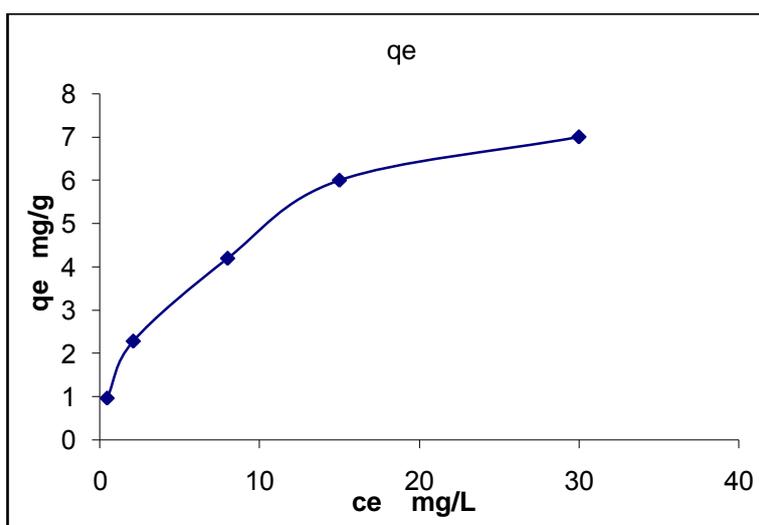


Fig (6) Adsorption isotherm for SAF dye on to CCLW at K.

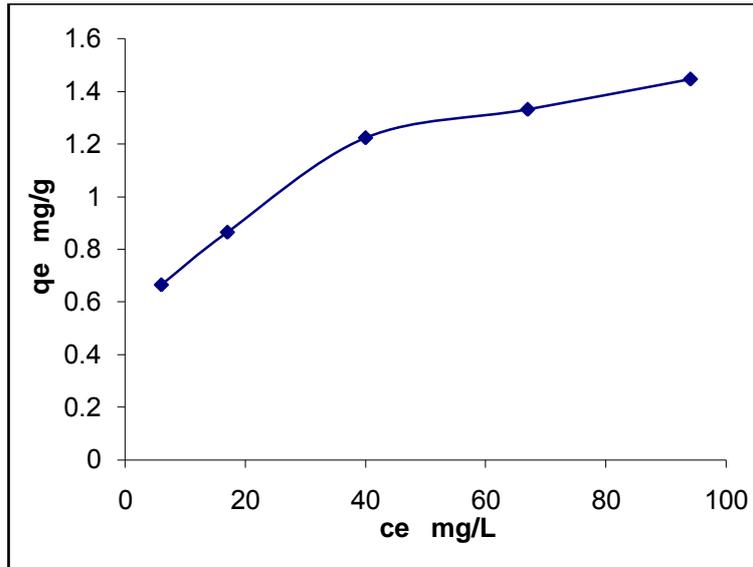
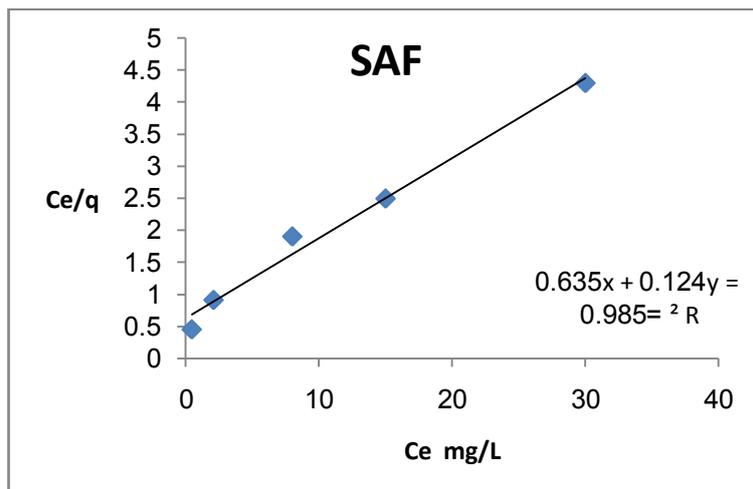
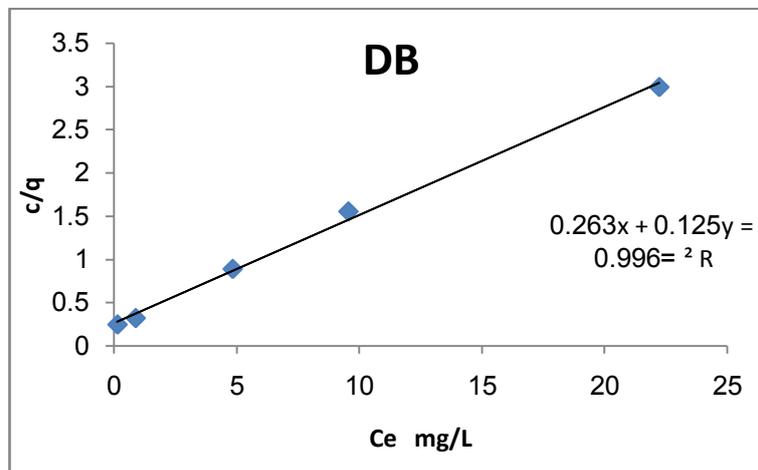


Fig (7) Adsorption isotherm for DIB dye on to CCLW at 298K .



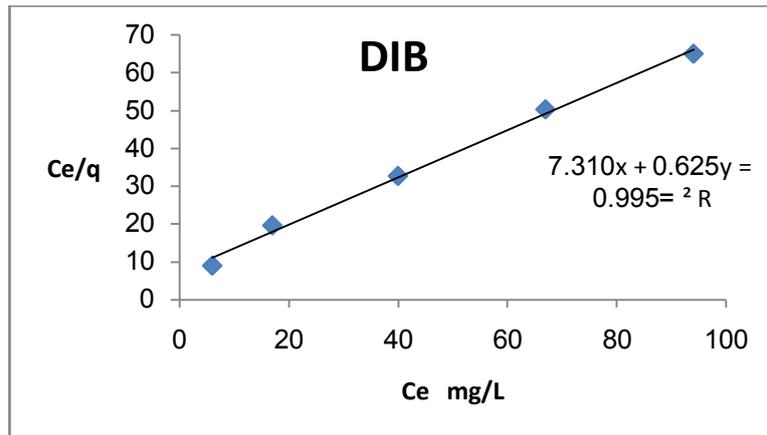


Fig (8) Langmuir plots corresponding to the adsorption of the studied dyes onto the CCLW .

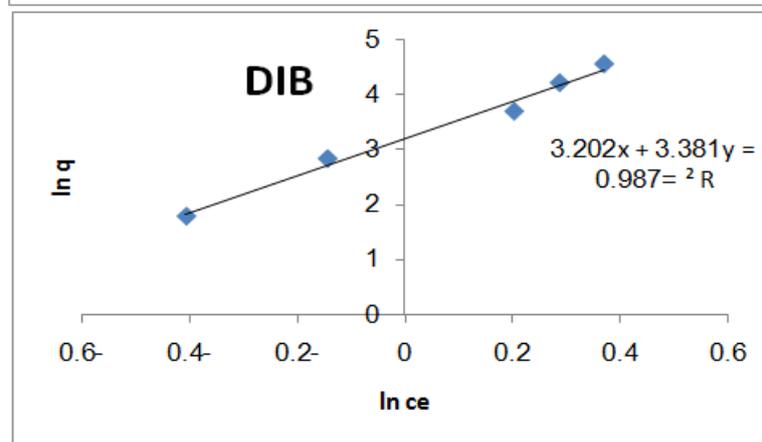
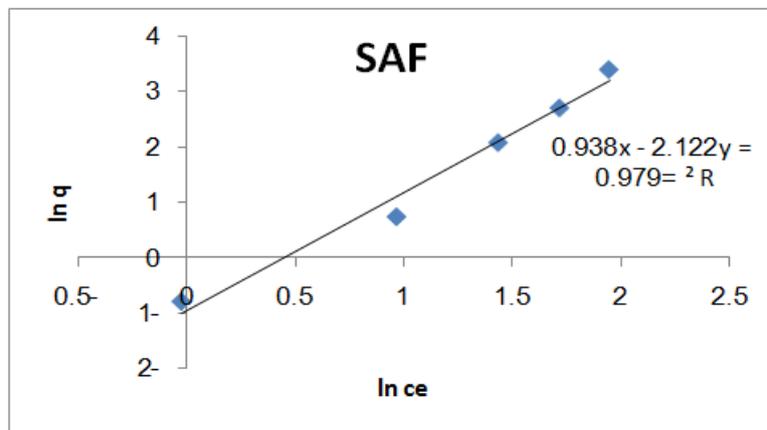
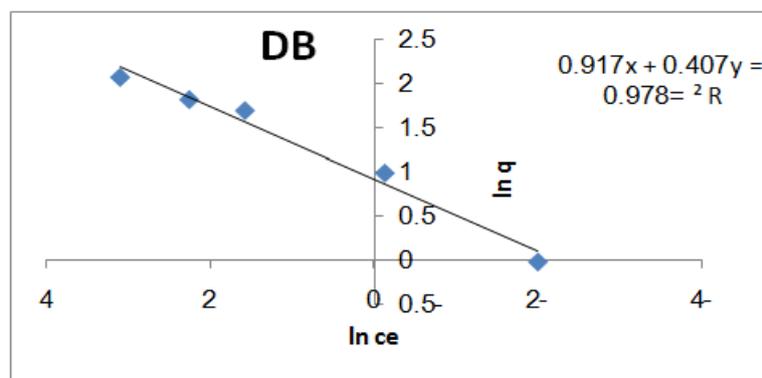


Fig (9) Freundlich plots corresponding to the adsorption of the studied dyes onto the CCLW.

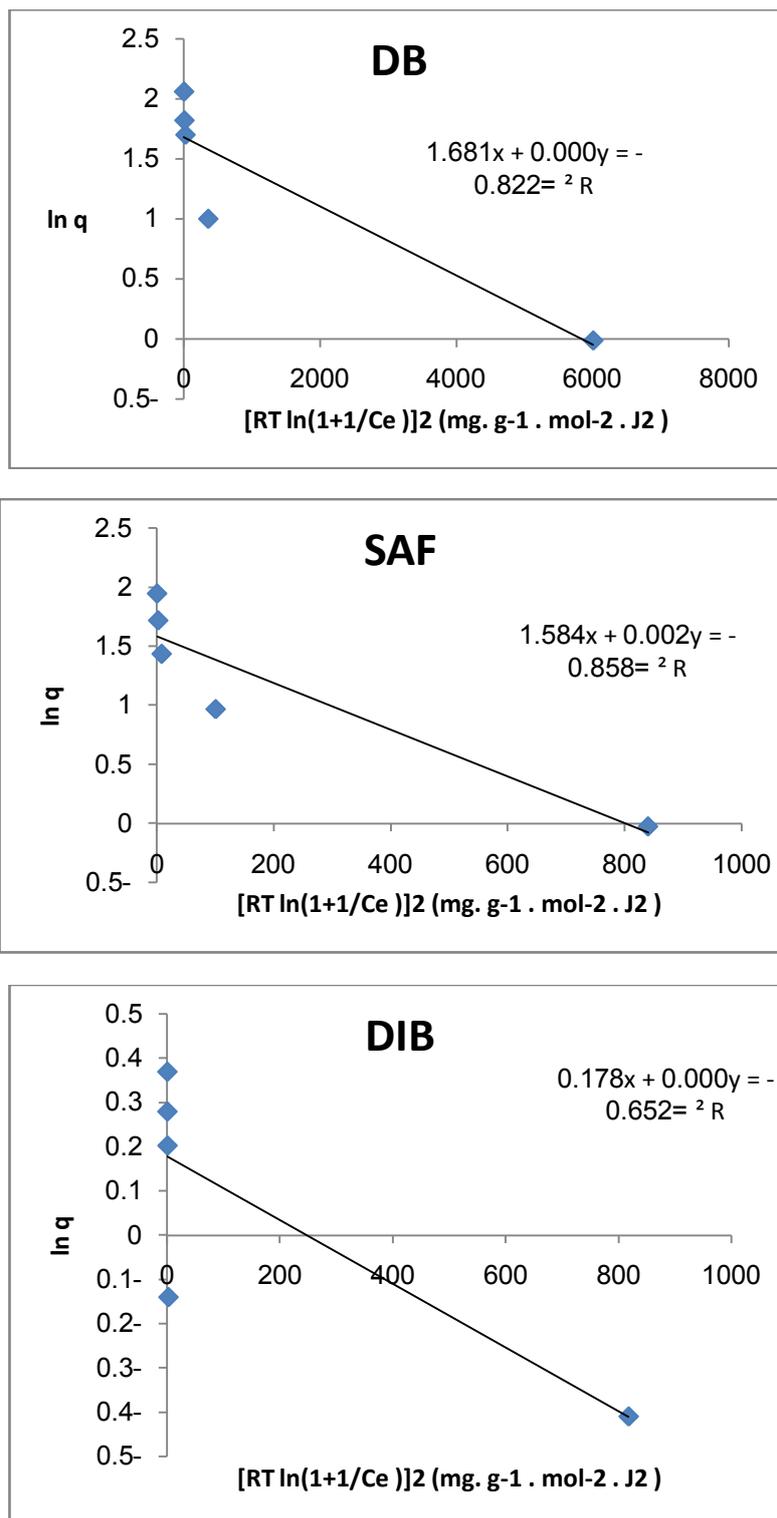


Fig (10) D-R isotherm plots corresponding to the adsorption of the studied dyes onto the CCLW .

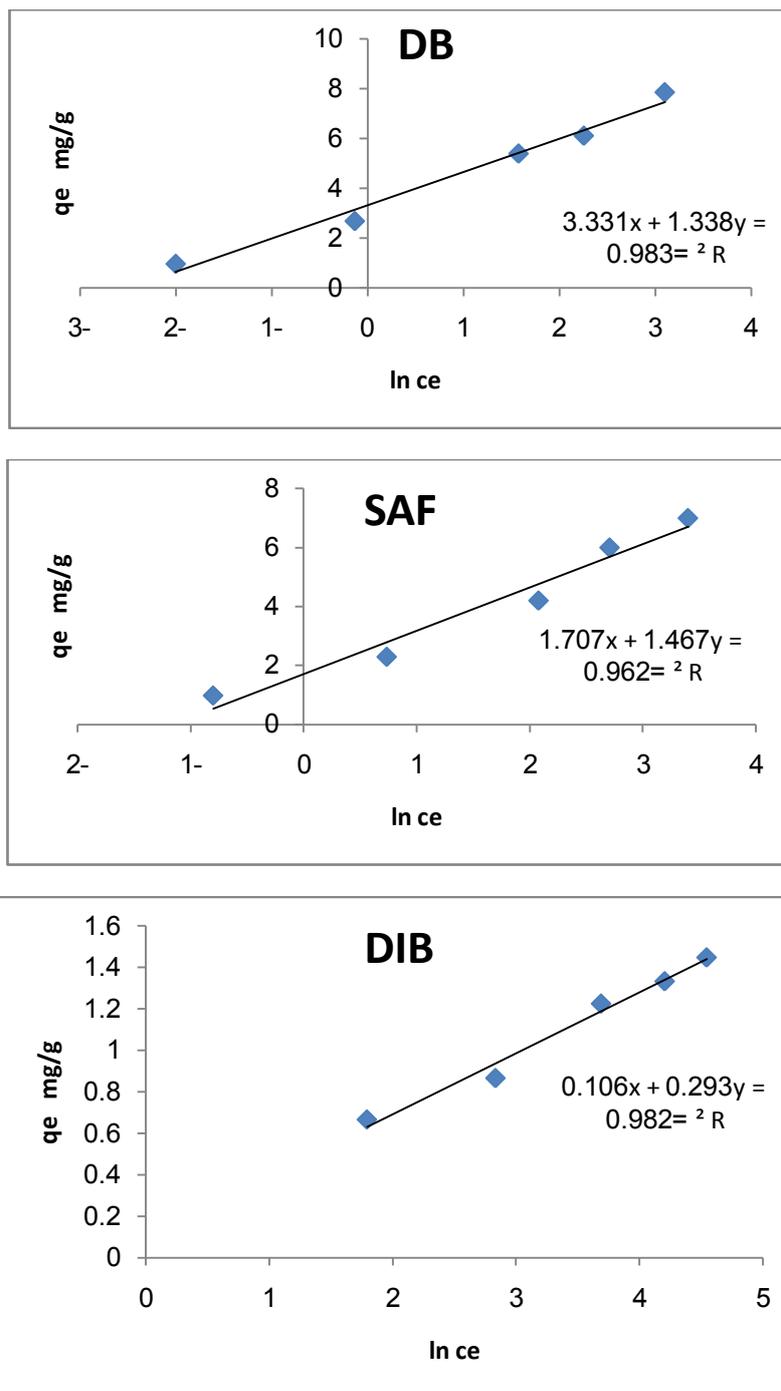


Fig (11) Temkin isotherm plots corresponding to the adsorption of the studied dyes onto the CCLW

## V. Conclusion

Based upon the results of this research, the following conditions can be draw:

- The experimental results indicate that the adsorption on chromium-containing leather waste is an effective way of removing.
- The effect of initial concentration of the adsorbate and contact time on the adsorption process was found to be considerable significance.
- The adsorption isotherm of these dyes onto CCLW are L- type according to the Gile's classification.
- Amongthe four models of the adsorption isotherm used, the equilibrium sorption data are fitted with the Langmuir adsorption isotherm.
- The value of the mean free energy of adsorption calculate from the D- R isotherm constants predict that the adsorption of these dyes onto CCLW is chemisorption in nature.

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