



## Cerium organic frameworks as green pollution preventing materials for dye removal

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### Abstract

Cerium organic frameworks are presented in this work as pollutant preventing materials for the removal of reactive red 195 dye (RR 195) from aqueous solutions. Anthranilic acid and  $\beta$ -diketone as ligand sources were used in the separate state for the preparation of the cerium complexes metal organic frameworks (MOF1-MOF2) with a stoichiometric ratio 1:2. The prepared MOFs were used as adsorbent materials for decontamination of coloured solutions. The prepared materials were fully characterized by SEM, EDX, FTIR, surface area and zeta potential. The adsorption conditions (adsorption time, adsorbent loading, pH and dye concentration) were thoroughly optimized. The maximum adsorption capacity of the tertiary complex was more than that of the binary complexes. Different isothermal models (Langmuir, Freundlich, Temkin, and Dubinin–Kaganer–Radushkevich) have been studied. The physic-sorption adsorption of RR 195 behaviour is more fit to the Langmuir isotherm model through the pseudo-second-order kinetic model. That study introduces the promising cerium organic framework as pollution preventing material through dye removal.

**Keywords:** Diketone; anthranilic acid; metal organic frameworks; adsorption; anionic dyes.

### 1. Introduction

The usage of synthetic dyes has been widely introduced in numerous industries such as textile, leather tanning, rubber, and paper production [1-5]. Reactive dyes among the synthetic dyes are typically known in dyeing of different fabrics due to their ability to form a stable bond with the substrate by presenting a covalent bond between their active groups and the superficial groups of the fibers in the dyebath during dyeing process [6]. Otherwise, reactive dyes are the most hazardous dyes among the used colorants in textile applications. Reactive dyes especially azo dye category is one of the most type which is commonly used for dyeing of cellulosic fabrics as well as wool fabrics and very common as main colorants fraction which exist in dyeing and finishing manufactories wastewater. Recently textile wastewater includes refractory materials that cause critical environmental and health problems due to their persistent and non-biodegradability [7-16]. Different treatment

strategies have been developed, including sedimentation, adsorption, coagulation-flocculation, reverse osmosis and anion exchange membranes for removal of colorants from the wastewater effluent [17-23].

The incomplete color removal by conventional techniques has been got attention, so colorants shall be expelled from the industrial waste water [24].

Adsorption has been made out to be an easy and fast technique in colorant removal due to its low cost, simple configuration and non-allergic to harmful substances. However its application is restricted by inefficiency activated carbon [25], mesoporous carbon [14], hydrotalcite [26], clay minerals [27], biopolymers [28], and agricultural by-products [29], biochar [30], EDTA modified Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>/Sawdust carbon nanocomposites [31], and nanocomposite- MnO<sub>2</sub>/BC [32].

Recently, newly adsorptive materials has been introduced for pollution control such as metal-

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organic frameworks (MOFs) or the development of inorganic-organic hybrid materials with a wide range of possible uses which is beside its efficient sorption capacity, can be used for drug delivery, photo-driven catalytic reactions, etc. [33, 34] MOFs have been applied for the elimination of many organic materials such as organic dyes [35], bisphenol [36], organic arsenic acids [37], pharmaceuticals / personal care products (PPPPs) and (2-Methyl – 4- chlorophenoxy) propionic acid (MCPP) from wastewater [38].

MOFs have attracted a lot of interest due to their high porosities. Moreover, MOFs have numerous conceivable applications including adsorption, separation of organic molecules and storage [39, 40]. MOFs have additionally been recognized as sorption and biosorption material for eliminating dangerous inorganic and organic pollutants, including adsorption of sulphur and nitrogen compounds [41, 42] and *E. coli* [43]. In addition, MOFs had been used as efficient material as antifungal and antibacterial [44] due to its stability resulted from the strong linkage between anthranilic acid and acetyl acetone, For the best of our knowledge, usage of binary and ternary cerium complexes for adsorptive removal of reactive red dye195 (RR 195) from water as adsorbent will be reported for the first time during this study to be used as green pollution preventive material as main goal of this study. Accordingly, the prepared cerium complexes were fully characterized and their adsorption capacity for removal of RR 195 anionic dye was evaluated. The adsorption process has been optimized and the adsorption behaviour has been demonstrated by studying different isothermal models and the adsorption kinetics.

## 2. Materials and methods

### 2.1. Materials

Cerium nitrate pentahydrate and anthranilic acid were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (purity > 99%). While, acetylacetone was obtained from Fluka (purity > 99%) and sodium hydroxide was purchased from (Sigma Aldrich, purity > 98%). Meanwhile, Hydrochloric acid (36%) was purchased from AcrosOrganics. The reactive dye (Synozol Red 6HBN, CI Reactive red 195 as shown in Fig.1) was purchased from KISCO South Korea

### 2.2. Methods

#### 2.2.1. Synthesis of Schiff-base ligand ( $H_2L$ ) 2-((4-oxopentan-2-ylidene)amino)benzoic acid

2-aminobenzoic acid (anthranilic acid) (0.02 mole, 2.74 g), acetylacetone (0.02 mole, 2g) were refluxed in ethanol 50 mL in presence of 2-3 drop of acetic acid as catalytic reagent for 4 h, then the mixture was concentrated by evaporation of

ethanol using rotary evaporator and the formed yellow crystal was filtrated and washed with water. The obtained yield 66% and melting point 146-148 °C.

$^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, from TMS in  $CDCl_3$ ) 12.95 (s, 1H, OH), 6.62–8.05 (m, 4H, ring proton), 5.25 (s, 1H,  $-CH=C-$ ), 1.68 (s, 3H,  $CH_3$ ), and 1.27 (s, 3H,  $CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, from TMS in  $CDCl_3$ ) 20.58, 24.96, 99.92, 116.31, 124.67, 126.27, 133.09, 135.45, 151.14, 160.89, 169.50, and 198.65. MS (m/z) 219.9  $[M]^+$ . Elemental Anal. (%) Calcd C (65.75), H (5.93), and N (6.39). Found C (65.92), H (5.90), and N (6.53). FT-IR (KBr pellets,  $cm^{-1}$ ) 1160 (C–O), 1213 (C–O), 1600 (C=N), and 3415 (O–H).

#### 2.2.2. Preparation of binary Ce complex (MOF1)

Anthranilic acid (0.02mole, 2.74 g) was dissolved in 50 mL ethanol,  $Ce(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (0.01 mole, 3.26 g) was dissolved in 40 mL distilled water and the solution was added dropwise to anthranilic solution. The mixture was reflux for 2 h while the pH was adjusted at 8.0 by 0.2 M NaOH solution. The dark precipitate was then filtered, and the formed precipitate was filtrated and washed with distilled water. The obtained yield 72% and melting point >300 °C.

$^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, from TMS in  $DMSO-d_6$ ) 6.91-7.89 (m, 8H, aromatic proton), 5.2 (s, 2H, NH proton).  $^{13}C$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, from TMS in  $DMSO-d_6$ ) 108.3, 117.2, 119.6, 132.4, 134.9, 148.5 and 169.15. MS (m/z) 409.97 (100.0%), 410.93 (15.1%)  $[M]^+$ . Elemental Anal. (%) Calcd C (40.98), H (2.46), and N (6.38). Found C (41.01), H (2.45), and N (6.34). FT-IR (KBr pellets,  $cm^{-1}$ ): 1389.45 (C–O), 1513 (C–O), 1615 (C=O), and 3420.1 (N–H).

#### Preparation of ternary Ce complex (MOF-2)

The ternary complex (MOF-2) was prepared by using the pervious prepared ligands  $H_2L$ . (0.02mole, 4.9 g) and 100 mL ethanol. Then, the aqueous solution of the (0.01mole, 3.26 g)  $Ce(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  was added slowly to the previous mixture solution with adjusting pH at 8.0 by 0.2 M NaOH solution and the mixture was refluxed for 2h. The resulting reddish precipitate was then collected, washed with distilled water then dried. The obtained yield 61% and melting point >300°C.

$^1H$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, from TMS in  $DMSO-d_6$ ) 7.51-8.27 (m, 8H, aromatic proton), 5.2 (s, 1H,  $-CH=C-$ ), 1.75 (s, 6H,  $2CH_3$ ), 1.29 (s, 6H,  $2CH_3$ ).  $^{13}C$ -NMR (400 MHz,  $\delta$  ppm, from TMS in  $DMSO-d_6$ ) 18.9, 24.8, 90.8, 116.6, 125.1, 126.6, 128.5, 135.4, 149.7, 164.9, 174.6, 188. MS (m/z) 575.07  $[M]^+$ . Elemental Anal. (%) Calcd C (50.17), H (3.86), and N (4.88). Found C (50.22), H (3.84),

and N (4.85). FT-IR (KBr pellets,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ): 1039 (C-H), 1389 (C-O), 1531 (C=N), 1637 (C=O), 2923 C=C.

### 2.2.3. Characterization

Macro porous structures of the prepared materials were scanned using QUANTA FEG250 QUANTA FEG250 scanning electron microscopy (SEM) attached with Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) unit, using an accelerating voltage of 300 kV. The FTIR spectrum of the prepared materials was carried out on JASCO FTIR spectroscopy model 6100. Also the surface charge was determined by Particle Sizing Systems, Inc. Santa Barbara, Calif., USA. While, Quantachrome Touch Win™ was used for measuring Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) surface area for the prepared materials.

### 2.2.4. Batch adsorption experimental

Batch experiments were carried out in a 100 mL conical flask to evaluate various parameters such as amount of adsorbent, pH, contact time, initial dye concentration. First the adsorbent amount experiments at different time intervals for 2 h were performed by mixing 50 mL solution of RR195 ( $50\text{mgL}^{-1}$ ) initial dye concentration - pH 6.5) with various adsorbent amount from  $0.5\text{ gL}^{-1}$  to  $1.5\text{ gL}^{-1}$ .

The pH experiments were performed by using the optimum adsorbent amount and the pH values of the dye solutions were adjusted in the range of 3–11 using 0.1 M HCl and 0.1 M NaOH solutions. Then the effect of the dye concentrations on the removal of RR-195 dye by the prepared adsorbent were studied using different dye concentrations ( $40\text{--}80\text{ mgL}^{-1}$ ) and the dye solutions were adjusted to pH3. All samples were automatically shaken at 150 rpm for 2h. From the initial time intervals to the equilibrium time the adsorbent was separated by centrifugation at 5000 rpm for 5 min.

The dye concentration was determined by measuring the absorbance value at  $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 535\text{ nm}$  using Carry 100 UV/Vis spectrophotometer. The dye uptake ( $q_t$ ) ( $\text{mgg}^{-1}$ ) at time  $t$  (min) calculated from the difference between the concentrations of RR195 before and after sorption using Equation 1 and the adsorption capacity ( $q_e$ ) ( $\text{mgg}^{-1}$ ) at equilibrium were calculated using Equation 2: [45]

$$q_t = \frac{(C_0 - C_t)V}{m} \quad (1)$$

$$q_e = \frac{(C_0 - C_e)V}{m} \quad (2)$$

Where,  $C_0$ ,  $C_t$  and  $C_e$  ( $\text{mgL}^{-1}$ ) were the dye concentrations at the initial, any time  $t$ , and at equilibrium in the solution, respectively.  $V$  (L) was the volume of the dye solution and  $m$  (g) was the mass of adsorbent.  $C_t$  was calculated by comparing

the characteristic absorbance of dyes before and at time  $t$  after adsorption.  $C_e$  was the dye concentration at the equilibrium time. The calculation method was also applied to the adsorption kinetics as well as the adsorption isotherms. Two adsorption kinetic models, namely pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order, were used to evaluate the rate of adsorption of ternary cerium complex at five different concentrations. To determine the adsorption isotherms, Langmuir, Freundlich, Temkin and Dubinin–Kaganer–Radushkevich (DKR) isotherms models were explored to study the adsorption mechanism and to obtain the theoretical maximum adsorption capacity.

### 2.2.5. Adsorption using real textile wastewater

Sample was collected through a day using dosing pump of  $250\text{ mL.h}^{-1}$  in order to represent the situation in the textile factories. The wastewater sample was collected from dyeing & finishing factory at El-Obour Industrial City located at the east of Cairo. The raw textile wastewater sample was characterized by determining the colour, turbidity, pH, Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand ( $\text{BOD}_5$ ) according to the Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, American Public Health Association (APHA), Washington, DC, USA. (2005). Adsorption experiments using the textile wastewater were proceeded by placing 250mL aliquots of the effluent. The samples were then centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 10 min. The initial and the final concentrations of colour and turbidity were measured as indicator for adsorption efficiency.

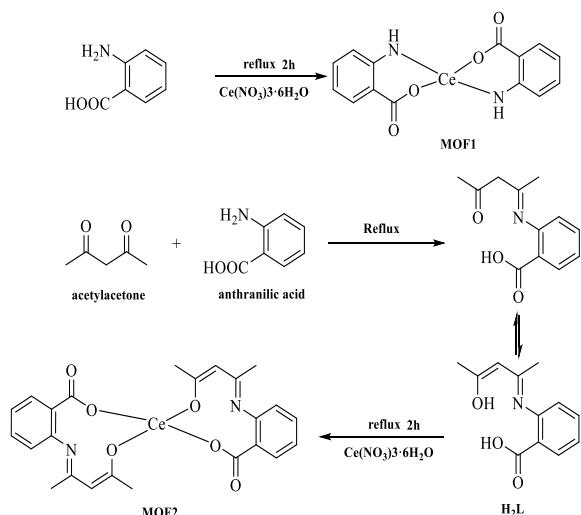
## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1.1. Synthesis of $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ligand and MOFs

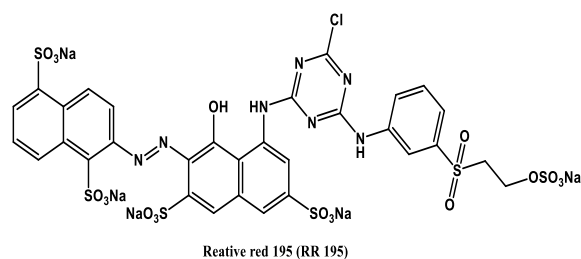
The Schiff base ligand ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) was prepared by the same procedure as previously reported [46]. A direct condensation reaction between equal molar ratio of acetylacetone and anthranilic acid in mild acidic condition formed the Schiff base ligand ( $\text{H}_2\text{L}$ ) in very good yield as shown in (scheme 1). The formed  $\beta$ -diketone ligand  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  characterized by its keton-enol isomerization in weak acidic conditions. The synthesis of two new MOFs 1 and 2 as presented in scheme 1 was easy prepared due to the high reactivity of  $\beta$ -diketone ligand which binding easily with cerium nitrate salt forming 2:1 complex.

### 3.1.2. Characterization of cerium complexes

The prepared MOFs, using anthranilic acid as well as  $\beta$ -diketone ligand  $\text{H}_2\text{L}$  that are identified as MOF1 and MOF2 respectively, has been characterized to study their morphology, surface area, etc...



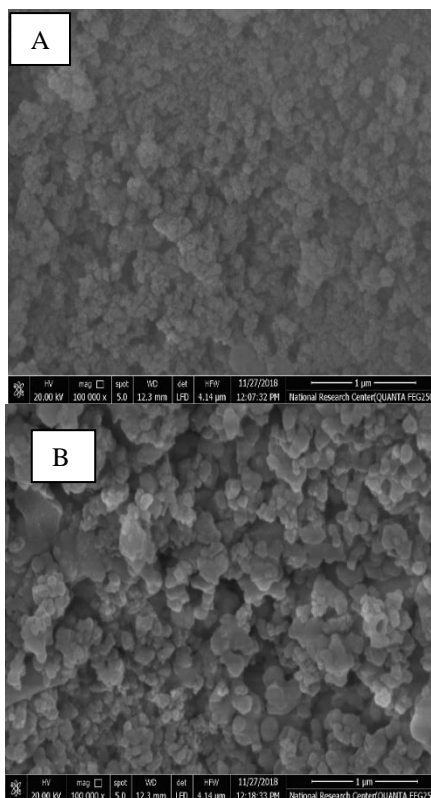
**Scheme 1:** the synthetic procedure of Schiff base ligand and its corresponding MOFs



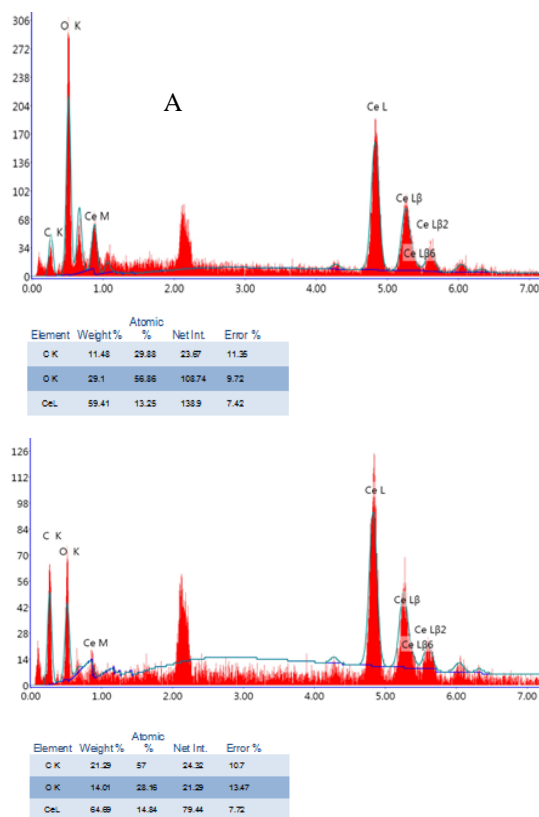
**Fig. 1** the chemical structure of the commercial anionic dye (RR 195)

The morphology of the prepared MOFs has been demonstrated by SEM (Fig. 2). SEM images have been proved a difference in the microstructures of MOF1, MOF2 in Figs 2a, 1b respectively. The irregular shape of all the prepared materials and the boost in the permeable surface with the ternary complex as well as the pores on its surface will assist in understanding the adsorption procedure [47]. The SEM image of MOF2 showing irregular pores shape which is clearer comparing with MOF1 at 100 KX magnification.

Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) is a diagnostic tool used for understanding the content of the materials [37]. In this study, EDX was used to indicate the chemical composition of the prepared MOFs. Fig. 2 demonstrated the atomic percentage of C, O and Ce as 26.88%, 56.86%, and 13.25% for MOF1 and 57%, 28.64%, and 14.84 % respectively for MOF2. The previously presented elemental contents confirm the molar equivalent of ligand and cerium for the prepared complex as 1: 2 proportions for the ligand and the cerium source yet the percent of carbon is distinctive in respect to the previously utilized ligand.



**Fig. 2** SEM for the prepared cerium complexes MOF1 (A), MOF2 (B)



**Fig. 3** Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) for the prepared cerium complexes (A) MOF1, (B) MOF2



The  $N_2$  adsorption, isotherms and the surface area values of the studied materials has been demonstrated in Table 1. The ternary complex MOF2 has the highest recorded surface area comparing with MOF1. Likewise the Zeta potential properties values presented in the same table, the studied materials have positive charge at pH 7. Thus, at lower pH, RR 195 adsorption on ternary complex is expected to be ideal and appropriate.

Table 1. Adsorption, isotherms and the surface area values (BET) results at 77 K and surface charge for the prepared cerium complexes

	Isotherm		Adsorption		BET	
	Slope	Intercept	Correlation coeff., r	C constant	Surface area	Avg. Zeta Potential
MOF1	52.4543	1.01188	0.99986	52.8384	65.1349 m <sup>2</sup> /g	57.34 mV
MOF2	33.8915	0.149819	0.999244	227.216	102.303 m <sup>2</sup> /g	58.57 mV

The FTIR spectra of the prepared complexes were recorded with the extent of 400–4000  $cm^{-1}$ . The data were listed and contrasted with each other to clarify the idea on the conceivable interactions for adsorbent-dye ion.

The scale in the range of 1200 and 1900  $cm^{-1}$  is trademark for the vibrations of the  $\beta$ -diketon ligands. The FTIR range of the studied complexes indicates group series at 1612, 1515, 1392  $cm^{-1}$  [48]. These groups are indistinguishable to those announced for complexes and are ascribed to the vibrations of the carbonyl and the C-C double bonds in the conjugated chelate rings composed to the  $Ce^{+3}$  ion. In the hydroxyl region an expansive band around 3436  $cm^{-1}$  is identified due to the hydrogen bonds between the surface OH groups and the  $\beta$ -diketon ligands [49]. The FTIR for MOF1, the crest at 3420  $cm^{-1}$  is caused by amine group combination ( $-NH$ ) or hydroxyl group ( $-OH$ ). The tops at 1615  $cm^{-1}$  were owed to the extending vibration of the carboxyl groups ( $-C=O$ ). The bands at 1513 and 1389  $cm^{-1}$  were ascribed to the extension of the carboxyl group vibration. The groups noticed at 1159 and 1035  $cm^{-1}$  referred to alcoholic C-O and C-N extending vibration respectively, along these lines, the existence of hydroxyl and amine groups on the adsorbent surface was proved [50].

For the ternary complex formation (MOF2), the position of these bands is shifted toward lower side as compared to the free ligand and the binary complexes. The FTIR graph has good clear six characteristic peaks without any noises at 2923, 1637, 1531, 1389 and 1039  $cm^{-1}$ , which

indicate the presence of  $-C-H$ ,  $-C=O$ ,  $-C=N$  and  $-C-N$ , respectively. That confirms the presence of the two started ligands within the final prepared material MOF2 and this coordination takes place through the nitrogen and oxygen atoms [44, 51].

### 3.2. Optimizing adsorption parameters

Fig. 4 demonstrates the impact of different doses of the studied complexes (MOF1), (MOF2) for RR 195 removal. The adsorption of RR195 in presence of MOF1 and MOF2, has been significantly observed with the dose raise in MOF loads until the balance has been attained then desorption starts to take a place. Ideal load of the prepared materials was 1.25  $g L^{-1}$ . With increment in the MOF1 and MOF2 portion, RR 195 adsorption was not considerable. Adsorption effectiveness of RR 195 in doses of 1.25 and 1.5  $g L^{-1}$  were 89 and 90% individually for MOF1 and 95% for MOF2. The decolorization of the understudied dye with MOF1 and MOF2 portions can be owed to the high adsorbent surface and the accessibility of more adsorption sites [52]. With adsorbent loads  $>1.25 g L^{-1}$ , adsorption sites of MOFs has been covered ending with diminish altogether MOF's surface area [52, 53]. It is ascribed to the key component of adsorption capacity for the decolorization of the understudies dye in aqueous solutions is electrostatic attraction among MOFs and the function groups on the surface of the dye. Accordingly, Zeta potential is an adsorbent's significant factor that influences the interactions and the adsorption limit. As displayed above in Table 1 the zeta potential of MOF1 and MOF2 at pH 7 have high positive values, so these MOFs are a steady retentive toward anionic dyes solutions and should investigate the connection between pH of the dye solution and dye decolorization.

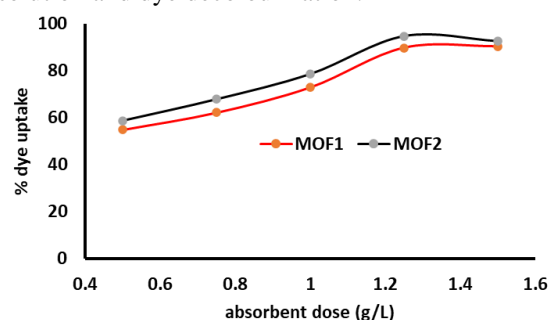


Fig.5 Effect of adsorbent dose (RR195 dye conc. 50mg/L; pH=6.5; reaction time=120min)

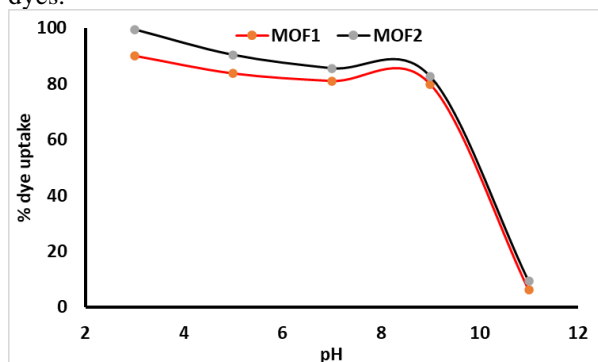
#### 3.2.1. Effect of pH

pH is a standout amongst the most essential parameters that affect colour adsorption, due to the progress in the surface charges of the adsorbent and the level of ionization of the adsorbate [54], consequently the initial pH of the RR195 solution is

an important factor. In this study, RR 195 adsorption by the studied MOFs was investigated in different pH values in the range of (3 – 11) in order to assess the impact of pH on RR 195 adsorption. In this experiment 0.125 g of MOF was added to 100 mL volume of RR 195 solution with starting concentration of 50 mgL<sup>-1</sup>.

Fig.5 demonstrates RR 195 adsorption at different pH values. Boosting the pH from (3 – 11) significantly decrease the RR 195 adsorption in aqueous solution. The adsorption capacity of the anionic RR195 dye has been dropped steadily with increasing the pH values towards the alkaline medium and the significant drop has been recorded at pH 11 which is in accordance with Fikuru and Sahu 2018 [55], at pH < 7, positive surface charge has been expected due to high hydrogen ion concentration. At higher pH values, OH<sup>-</sup> amount gradually incremented and RR 195 adsorption on MOF reduced due to repulsion force between the negative surface charge and the negative hydroxide ions [45, 56]. At pH 3, RR 195 adsorption on MOFs, most extreme adsorption was accomplished. Thus, pH 3 was chosen as optimum pH value for the following experiments to study the reaction kinetics.

The insets in Fig.5 apparently exhibit the colour variation of the MOFs after the colour adsorption. The huge pore size encourages the quick colour adsorption and this is coordinated with the SEM pictures for MOFs shown in Fig.2 that leads to conceivable co-adsorption of large RR 195 molecule. In addition, the appropriate pHPZC, just as the generally large positive zeta potentials, clarify the capacity of MOFs to pull in oppositely charged dyes.



**Fig. 5** The effect of pH on RR 195 adsorption onto cerium complexes at [dye conc.=50mg/L; dose 1.25 g/L; reaction time=60min.

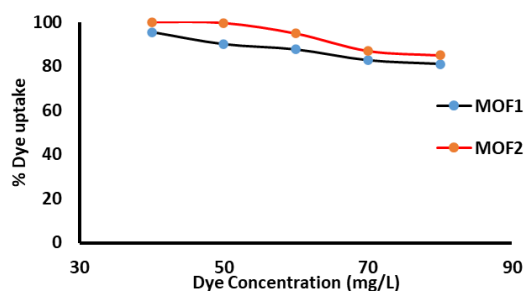
### 3.3. Adsorption kinetics

In order to evaluate the effect of different RR 195 concentration, 40–80 mgL<sup>-1</sup> of aqueous dye solutions were used at optimum contact time of 60 min.

Fig.6 shows the effect of RR 195 dye concentration on adsorption by MOFs. With increasing RR 195 concentration, adsorption

efficiency decreased. Meanwhile in the case of MOF1,2 with dye concentration of 40 mgL<sup>-1</sup>, RR 195 dye was completely adsorbed after 50 min due to adsorption of dye particles on MOFs adsorbent surface. While, incomplete removal has been recorded in higher concentrations due to the dissonance among RR 195 particles [57, 58].

MOF2 was selected to study the adsorption kinetics toward RR 195 dye solution which depicts the rate of solute take-up contingent upon the adsorption contact time.



**Fig.6** dye concentration effect on the efficiency in removal of RR-195 dye using the synthesized MOFs [Dose 1.25 g/L; pH 3 reaction time=90min]

The pseudo-first order model was firstly introduced where  $k_1$  is the adsorption rate constant and determine from Equation 3. The integrated equation is shown by Equation 4. [59]

$$\frac{dq_t}{dt} = k_1(q_e - q_t) \quad (3)$$

$$\ln(q_e - q_t) = \ln q_e - k_1 t \quad (4)$$

The quantity of dye adsorbed at time  $t$  before equilibrium represented by ( $q_t$ ) while ( $q_e$ ) represent the amount of the adsorbed dye at equilibrium. By plotting  $\ln(q_e - q_t)$  versus time ( $t$ ), the rate constant is calculated from the slope. The correlation coefficients ( $R^2$ ) were detected in the range of 0.9384-0.9709. Also, the experimental  $q_e$  vary from the determined ones as recorded in Table 2. Accordingly, the model of the pseudo-first order kinetic may not a substantial for clarification the RR-195 dye adsorption procedure onto MOF2 adsorbent. Kinetic model for pseudo-second-order is introduced by the next Equation 5.

$$\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_e^2} + t/q_e \quad (5)$$

Where, the rate constant of the second-order (g/mg min) is  $k_2$  that calculated for several concentrations relative to the direct plots of  $t/q_t$  versus time. It is obvious from Table 2 that the correlation coefficients  $R^2$  were set in the highest range of 0.9667 - 0.9877.

It might be clarified that the pseudo-first order model does not fit well to the entire range of contact time and generally under estimate the  $q_e$  values. The  $R^2$  values for the pseudo second-order

model, on the other hand, were relatively larger than those for the pseudo first-order type. Accordingly, pseudo-second order kinetic was more appropriate for depicting the uptake of RR-195 dye by MOF2 adsorbent.

Table 2. Models and parameters for adsorption kinetics using MOF2 for removal of RR-195 dye using

C <sub>0</sub> (mg/L)	Q <sub>e</sub> (mg/g)	Pesudo first order model		pesudo second order model	
		K <sub>1</sub> (min <sup>-1</sup> )	R <sup>2</sup>	K <sub>2</sub> (g/mg min)	R <sup>2</sup>
40	31.992	0.0215	0.9384	0.004223	0.9877
50	40.32	0.0161	0.9509	0.001955	0.9772
60	47.2	0.0127	0.9493	0.001584	0.9697
70	53.6	0.0126	0.9564	0.001705	0.9802
80	59.2	0.0114	0.9709	0.001117	0.9667

The model to get a better adsorption process is performed by the intraparticle diffusion and included two central steps through the movement of solute particles from the aqueous phase to the superficies of adsorbent which is followed by spread of the dye particles into the internal channels of the adsorbent. In general for adsorption system and correspond to this model, the quantity of adsorption is relative to t<sup>1/2</sup> instead of t contact time and for this situation the adsorption rate can be all around assessed utilizing t<sup>1/2</sup> (half adsorption time) which is shown by Equation 6 [60].

$$q_t = k_{id} t^{1/2} + C \quad (6)$$

Where, k<sub>id</sub> is rate constant of the intraparticle diffusion (mg.g<sup>-1</sup>.min<sup>-1/2</sup>) and C (mg.g<sup>-1</sup>) is the intercept. The intraparticle diffusion is expected by plotting the quantity of dye adsorbed (q<sub>t</sub>) versus the square root of time at various beginning dye concentrations (t<sup>1/2</sup>). The rate constant of the intraparticle diffusion (k<sub>id</sub>) can be evaluated from their slope. The recognized values q<sub>t</sub> were observed to be directly related to the t<sup>1/2</sup> and the intercept C values showed in Table 3 gave data about the boundary layer thickness whereas strength to the direct relation between the outside mass exchange and the particle movement. The C constant incremented with raising RR-195 dye concentration and that trend was assigned to the thickness increase of the boundary layer.

The recorded R<sup>2</sup> values in Table 3 prove that the intraparticle diffusion model is the rate-limiting stage and the plots linearity show that the process of intraparticle diffusion had a noteworthy impact in the adsorption of dye RR-195 by MOF 2 adsorbent in aqueous solution.

The Elovich model is substantial for processes with heterogeneous superficies and it is reasonable and appropriate for chemisorption. The direct Elovich model is given by Equation 7 [59].

$$q_t = \frac{1}{\beta} \ln \alpha \beta + \frac{1}{\beta} \ln t \quad (7)$$

Where, α is the initial adsorption rate (mg g<sup>-1</sup>.min) and β is identified with the degree of surface inclusion and the activation energy for chemisorption. A plot of q<sub>t</sub> against ln t allows linearity with a slope of (1/β) and an intercept with 1/β ln α β. The correlation coefficient recorded in Table 3 proved that the adsorption of RR-195 dye onto MOF2 adsorbent followed the pseudo second order kinetics.

Table 3. The intraparticle diffusion model and Elovich model for removal of RR-195A dye onto MOF2 adsorbent

C <sub>0</sub> (mg/L)	Intra particle diffusion model		Elovich model		
	k <sub>id</sub> (mg/g min <sup>1/2</sup> )	R <sup>2</sup>	α (mg/g min)	B (mg/g)	R <sup>2</sup>
40	2.575	0.9662	3.9	0.146563	0.9898
50	3.556	0.9645	4.19	0.088496	0.9918
60	3.682	0.9836	4.6	0.086881	0.9936
70	4.039	0.9961	8	0.082372	0.9888
80	5.075	0.9952	5.5	0.063735	0.9942

### 3.4. Adsorption isotherms

The isotherm of adsorption is a critical methodology for the performance of how the adsorbent will interface and tie with the adsorbate. Moreover, adsorption models give a clue of the adsorption limit and assume an essential impact in concluding the conceivable adsorption process.

In this work Four different models have been introduced including Freundlich, Langmuir, Dubinin–Radushkevich (D–R) and Temkin isotherms [61].

The conveniently of these models is commonly discussed and assessed based on the correlation coefficient R<sup>2</sup>. The Langmuir isotherm depends on the supposition that the adsorption procedure is supposed as a sort of chemical interaction in unimolecular shape [62]. The model is expressed by the linear Equation 8.

$$C_e/q_e = (1/q_{max}) b + (C_e/q_{max}) \quad (8)$$

Where C<sub>e</sub> is the equilibrium concentration (mg.L<sup>-1</sup>), q<sub>e</sub> is the amount of adsorbed dye (mg.g<sup>-1</sup>) at equilibrium, and q<sub>max</sub> (mg.g<sup>-1</sup>) and b (L.mg<sup>-1</sup>) are the Langmuir constants associated with the adsorption limit and adsorption energy, respectively. The direct plot of C<sub>e</sub>/q<sub>e</sub> vs C<sub>e</sub> (Fig. 7) shows a straight line with R<sup>2</sup> equal to 0.9992, indicating that adsorption follows the Langmuir isotherm model with monolayer adsorption of the understudied dye

with MOF2. The slope and intercept of the linear plot were used to obtain the values for B and  $q_{max}$  were derived from the linear plot's slope and intercept, where slope =  $(1/q_{max})$  and the intercept =  $(1/q_{max})b$ . The fundamental attributes of Langmuir isotherm can be determined as far as dimensionless separation factor of the equilibrium parameter ( $R_L$ ), which is calculated by Equation 9.

$$R_L = \frac{1}{1 + bC_0} \quad (9)$$

Where,  $C_0$  is the essential concentration ( $\text{mg.L}^{-1}$ ) of the adsorbate dye in the solution and  $b$  is the Langmuir constant connected to the adsorption energy ( $\text{L.mg}^{-1}$ ). The determined  $R_L$  value indicate that the isotherm sort is positive ( $0 < R_L < 1$ ).  $R_L$  values were detected in the range of 0.002791-0.001397 referring to ideal MOF2 adsorbent for anionic dye removal.

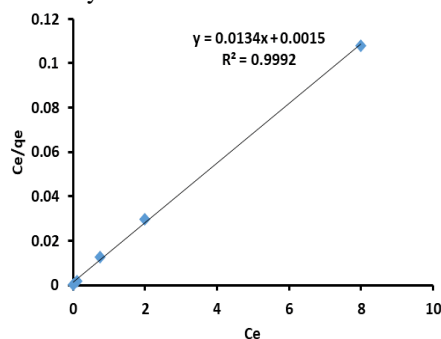


Fig. 7. Langmuir isotherm plot for adsorption of RR-195 onto MOF2 adsorbent

The Freundlich adsorption isotherm model [63] proposes a heterogeneous adsorption superficies with irregular accessible sites and varying adsorption energies. Freundlich's isotherm model is described by Equation 10.

$$q_e = K_F C_e^{1/2} \quad (10)$$

Where,  $q_e$  is the quantity of adsorbed solute that is regarded to solute concentration at equilibrium  $C_e$ . The linear type of Freundlich isotherm is shown by Equation 11.

$$\ln q_e = \ln K_F + \frac{1}{n} \ln C_e \quad (11)$$

Where  $K_F$  is a constant and is defined as the adsorption or distribution associated with the bonding energy. It explains how much dye is adsorbed on the adsorbent surface ( $\text{mg.g}^{-1}$ ) in relation to the adsorption limit. A plot of  $\ln q_e$  vs  $\ln C_e$  revealed a straight line with a slope of  $(1/n)$  and an intercept of  $\ln K_F$ , from which the values of  $K_F$  and  $n$  may be calculated, and the evaluated parameters are listed in Table 4.

A plot of  $\ln q_e$  vs  $\ln C_e$  showed a straight line with the slope assigns a determination of the adsorption strength or superficies heterogeneity.

The determined  $1/n$  value (0.0927) is around zero therefore the adsorption system gets more heterogeneous as presented in Fig.8. By usual comparing of the correlation coefficients ( $R^2 = 0.9234$ ) for Freundlich isotherm versus that of Langmuir ( $R^2 = 0.9992$ ) demonstrates that Langmuir delivered a superior fitting for the exploratory equilibrium adsorption data than Freundlich isotherm as recorded in Table 4 and monolayer adsorption has been proved in adsorption of the understudied anionic dye with MOF2.

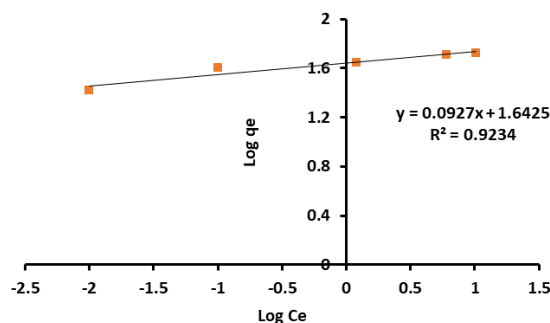


Fig.8 Freundlich model plot for adsorption of RR195 onto MOF2 adsorbent

The Temkin isotherm is depends on the statement that the heat of adsorption would diminish directly with the raise in adsorbent coverage. The straight type of this isotherm is represented by the next equations 12-14 [63].

$$q_e = \left(\frac{RT}{b_T}\right) \ln a_T + \left(\frac{RT}{b_T}\right) \ln C_e \quad (12)$$

$$q_e = B \ln a_t + B \ln C_e \quad (13)$$

$$B = \frac{RT}{b_T} \quad (14)$$

Where,  $q_e$  is the amount of the dye adsorbed at equilibrium;  $b_T$  ( $\text{mgL}^{-1}$ ) is the constant of isotherm Temkin,  $a_T$  ( $\text{Lg}^{-1}$ ) is constant at equilibrium binding constant. According to the graph of  $q_e$  vs  $\ln C_e$ , The slope and intercept can be calculated, as well as the Temkin energy constants.  $B$  is a constant that is consistently associated with the adsorption heat ( $\text{J.mol}^{-1}$ ) and their values are summarized in Table 4. The  $R^2$  value which is distinguished as 0.9579 (Fig.9) may be used to verify a better connection of the Temkin isotherm.

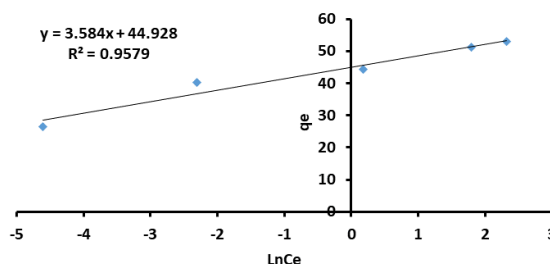


Fig. 9 Temkin isotherm, Adsorption isotherm models for RR 195 adsorption over MOF2



The Dubinin–Radushkevich (D–R) isotherm is often used to describe the mechanism of adsorption and to evaluate the porosity qualities of the adsorbent as well as the apparent energy of adsorption. Equation 15 estimates the direct equation of the D-R isotherm. [64].

$$\ln q_e = \ln q_s - (K_{ads} \varepsilon^2) \quad (15)$$

Where,  $q_s$  is the hypothetical saturation limit ( $\text{mg.g}^{-1}$ ),  $K_{ads}$  denotes the Dubinin-Radushkevich constant, which is associated with the mean free energy of adsorption per mole of adsorbate ( $\text{J.mol}^{-1}$ ) and  $\varepsilon$  is the Polanyi potential, which is associated with equilibrium and denoted by Equation 16..

$$\varepsilon = RT \ln \left( 1 + \frac{1}{C_e} \right) \quad (16)$$

R representing the gas constant value, T is the temperature in Kelvin. Plotting  $\ln q_e$  vs  $\varepsilon^2$ , a straight line formed with a slope equal  $K_{ads}$  and intercept equal  $\ln q_s$ . The  $q_s$  ( $\text{mg.g}^{-1}$ ) and  $K_{ads}$  ( $\text{mol}^2.\text{k}^{-1}\text{J}^{2(-1)}$ ) values were determined and found 23 and 0.0004685, respectively. Meanwhile, the recognized  $R^2$  is 0.945 which demonstrate acceptable fitting to this isotherm model as introduced in Fig.10. The consequences of this study is a monolayer physisorption behaviour has been confirmed for RR- 195 dye adsorption by MOF2 adsorbent.

### 3.5. Regeneration of MOF2 and reusability

The facile regeneration and reusability test of MOF2 is performed for possible implementation in the large scale. The prepared adsorbent MOF2 was regenerated with 0.1N HCl and the adsorption capacity of the regenerated MOF2 for eight cycles was investigated under optimized conditions as in previous and compared to the first cycle as shown in Fig. 11. The adsorption capacity of RR 195 onto MOF2 not decrease with increasing reusability cycles up to 8 cycles with slight decrease after the fourth cycle. After eight cycles, removal efficiency is still above 99%. So, MOF2 can be easily reused many times after regeneration, demonstrating that this adsorbent has a high potential for dye adsorption in wastewater.

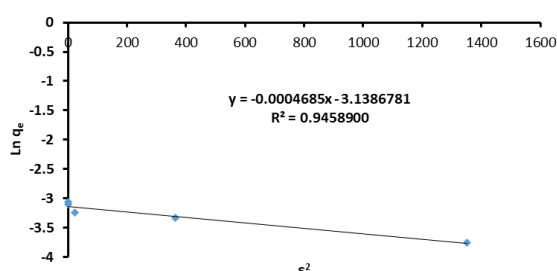


Fig.10 D-R isotherm adsorption isotherm models for RR 195 adsorption over MOF2

Table 4. Isotherm parameters of Langmuir, Freundlich, Temkin and D-R models

Adsorption model	Isotherm parameters	
langmuir	$q_m$ ( $\text{mg/g}$ )	74.6
	$b$ ( $\text{L/mg}$ )	8.9
	$R_L$	0.002791 - 0.001397
	$R^2$	0.9992
freundlich	$1/n$	0.235
	$K_F$ ( $\text{L/mg}$ )	7.925
	$R^2$	0.931
	$a_T$ ( $\text{L/g}$ )	268227
temkin	$b_T$	702.8
	$B$ ( $\text{J/mol}$ )	3.584
	$R^2$	0.9579
D-R	$q_s$ ( $\text{mg/g}$ )	23
	$K_{ads}$ ( $\text{mol}^2/\text{KJ}^2$ )	0.0004685
	$R^2$	0.945

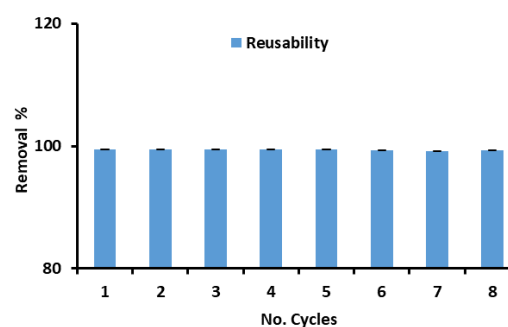


Fig. 11 the cycling index of the removal of RR 195 from regenerated MOF2 (Dye concentration: 50 mg/L; Dose: 1.25 g/L; pH 3)

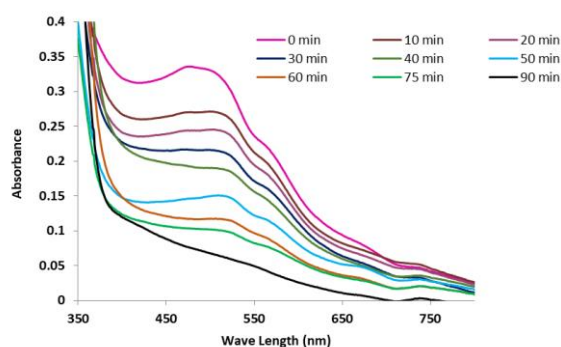
### 3.6. Adsorption using real wastewater

MOF2 has been evaluated as an adsorbent to treat real wastewater sample from the collected textile industries, the evaluation includes dyes and different chemicals. The real wastewater sample from dyeing factory contains not only dyes but also different components such as auxiliaries and salts which can affect and interfere in the adsorption process.

Fig 12 shows that the BOD5/COD ratio was approximately 0.39 indicating only physicochemical treatment, or the combination of physicochemical. Because wastewater from the textile sector contains low levels of biodegradable organic compounds, these findings were expected. Thus, for textile wastewater, physicochemical treatment is usually sufficient, with no additional biological treatment required. [65].

In terms of the MOF2 adsorption trials with real wastewater, during 90 mints the colour of the sample was reduced from the initial absorbance 0.41 to 0.017 at  $\lambda_{max}$  495 nm, which means the removal percentage of dye reach 95.9%.

The turbidity was decreased from 164 to 9 NTU following the adsorption procedure, representing an 84.7% reduction. Harrelk as et al. (2009) [66] Textile wastewater treatment was investigated using several physicochemical process combinations. Combining coagulation/ flocculation (CF) with adsorption on activated carbon (AC) resulted in a colour reduction of only 50%, which is less than that achieved in this study. While Bayramoglu et al. (2007) [67], investigated the effect of different aluminum and iron electrode configurations on the valuable removal of textile wastewater electrocoagulation treatment, achieving 83 and 80% turbidity removal using Fe and Al electrodes, respectively, which is less than that achieved in this study. These findings suggest that MOFs can be utilized to clean genuine textile effluent.



**Fig. 12** real wastewater treatment using MOF2 (Dose: 1.25 g/L; pH 7.3)

Table 5 is a comparison of the adsorption capacity of some adsorbents reported previously for dye removal. Compared with other metal oxide-based adsorbents, MOF2 presented in this study has high capacity as presented [16, 32, 68]. Also by comparing with MOF Uio-66, it can be potentially an effective adsorbent for RR 195 [58]. However, there are other MOFs that have high adsorption capacity attributes to the highest condition for preparing these MOFs which is considered costly ineffective preparation methods [45, 69].

Table 5: wastewater properties before and after treatment using MOF2

Parameter	raw real wastewater	real wastewater after treatment
pH	7.3	7.3
Colour	0.41	0.017
Turbidity (NTU)	164	9
BOD5 (mg.L-1)	210	35
COD (mg.L-1)	550	85
TSS (mg.L-1)	84	16

#### 4. Conclusion

Different cerium organic complexes have been prepared by using  $\beta$  diketone ligand. Semi-empirical calculations indicated that Metal (Cerium) organic frameworks (MOFs) can be applied as green solution for removing Reactive Red 195 (RR) dye from aqueous solutions. The prepared  $\beta$  diketone ligand have been used as ligand source of the binary cerium complexes (MOF1- MOF2) as 1:2 stoichiometry complexes. These materials showed excellent adsorption behaviour because of their intrinsic porosity, organized channel structure, high surface area, stability, and functionality. These characteristics have been proved by SEM, EDX, FTIR, surface area and zeta potential beside the high removal rate of reactive red 195 dye. The adsorption conditions have been optimized to 1.25 g L<sup>-1</sup> of MOFs for removal of 95% of 50 mg L<sup>-1</sup> dye at pH3.

The results investigated that adsorption limits of ternary complex were much higher than of binary complex. The exploratory information could be better allowed by the Langmuir isotherm model and demonstrate the capacity of MOF2 to adsorb 74.6 mg of RR 195 for each gram of adsorbent at the ideal conditions. The coexistence of physisorption behaviour in this process, with intra-particle diffusion as a rate controlling step is following a pseudo-second-order kinetic model.

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#### Declarations

Conflict of interest: The authors declare no competing interests.

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