

## Supplementary Material

# **Biopolymer Meets Nanoclay: Rational Fabrication of Superb Adsorption Beads From Green Precursors for Efficient Capture of Pb(II) and Dyes**

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## Part I: Equations and characterizations

### 1.1 Equations

The experimental data were fitted with kinetic mathematical models: pseudo-first order kinetic model (Equation S1) and pseudo-second order kinetic models (Equation S2).

$$\frac{t}{q_t} = \frac{1}{k_2 q_e^2} + \frac{t}{q_e}$$

(S1)

$$\text{Log}(q_e - q_t) = \log q_e - \frac{k_1 t}{2.303}$$

(S2)

where  $q_t$  and  $q_e$  are the adsorption capacity at time  $t$  and at adsorption equilibrium, respectively (mg/g),  $k_1$  ( $\text{min}^{-1}$ ) and  $k_2$  (g/(mg·min)) are pseudo-first order and pseudo-second order kinetic constants [77].

The adsorption data were fitted with different adsorption isotherm models: Langmuir model (Equation S3), Freundlich model (Equation S4) and Sips model (Equation S5) [78].

$$q_e = k_f C_e^{\frac{1}{n}} \quad (\text{S3})$$

$$q_e = \frac{q_m k_L C_e}{1 + C_e k_L} \quad (\text{S4})$$

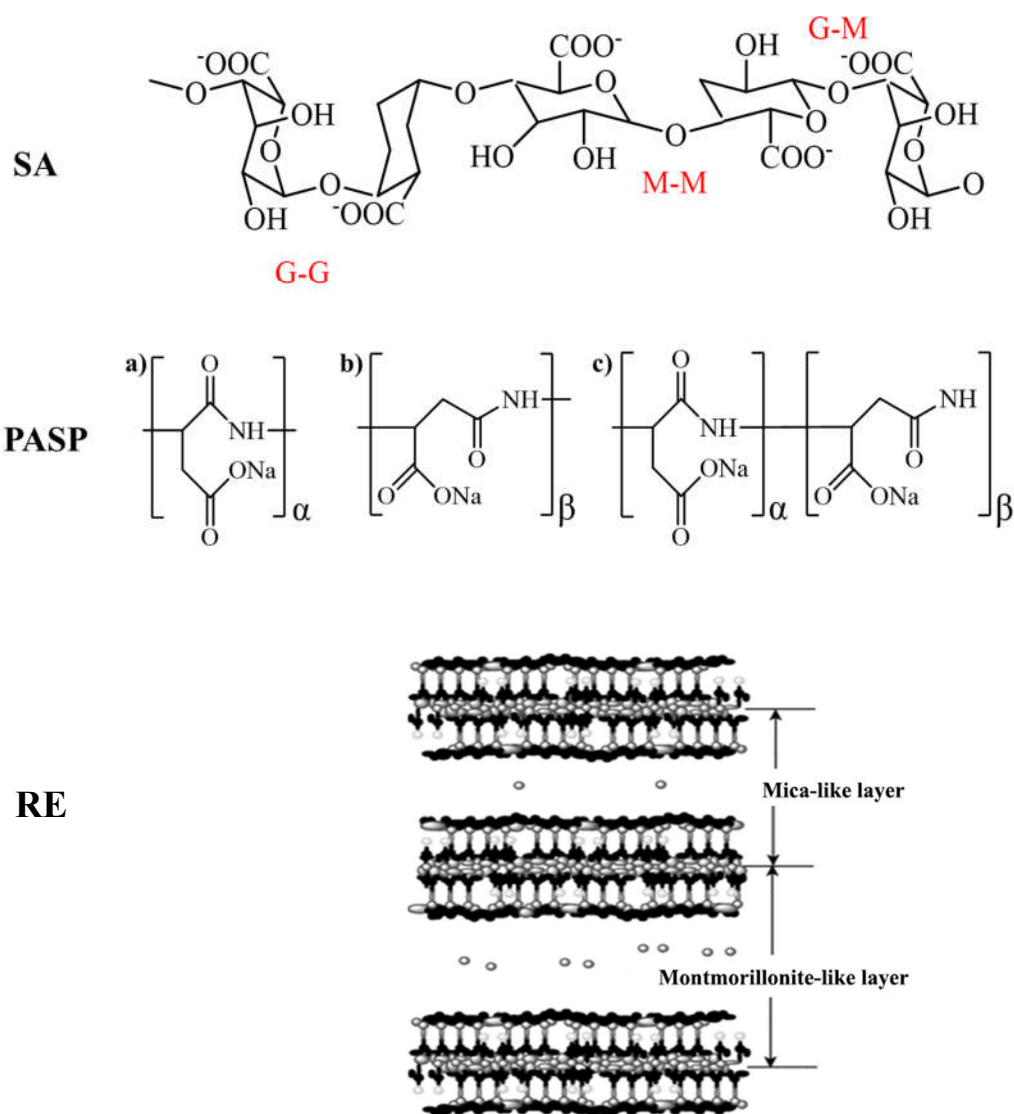
$$q_e = \frac{k_s C_e^{\beta_s}}{1 + a_s C_e^{\beta_s}} \quad (\text{S5})$$

where  $q_e$  is the adsorption capacity at adsorption equilibrium state (mg/g),  $q_m$  is the maximum adsorption capacity (mg/g);  $K_L$  is the Langmuir constant related to theoretical monolayer adsorption (L/mg);  $C_e$  is the concentration of adsorbate in solution at adsorption equilibrium state (mg/L);  $K_f$  is the Freundlich adsorption isotherm constant [(mg/L)(L/g)<sup>1/n</sup>];  $n$  is a constant related to the intensity of adsorption [79].  $K_s$  is the Sips model isotherm constant (L/g);  $a_s$  the Sips model constant (L/mg) and  $\beta_s$  the Sips model exponent.

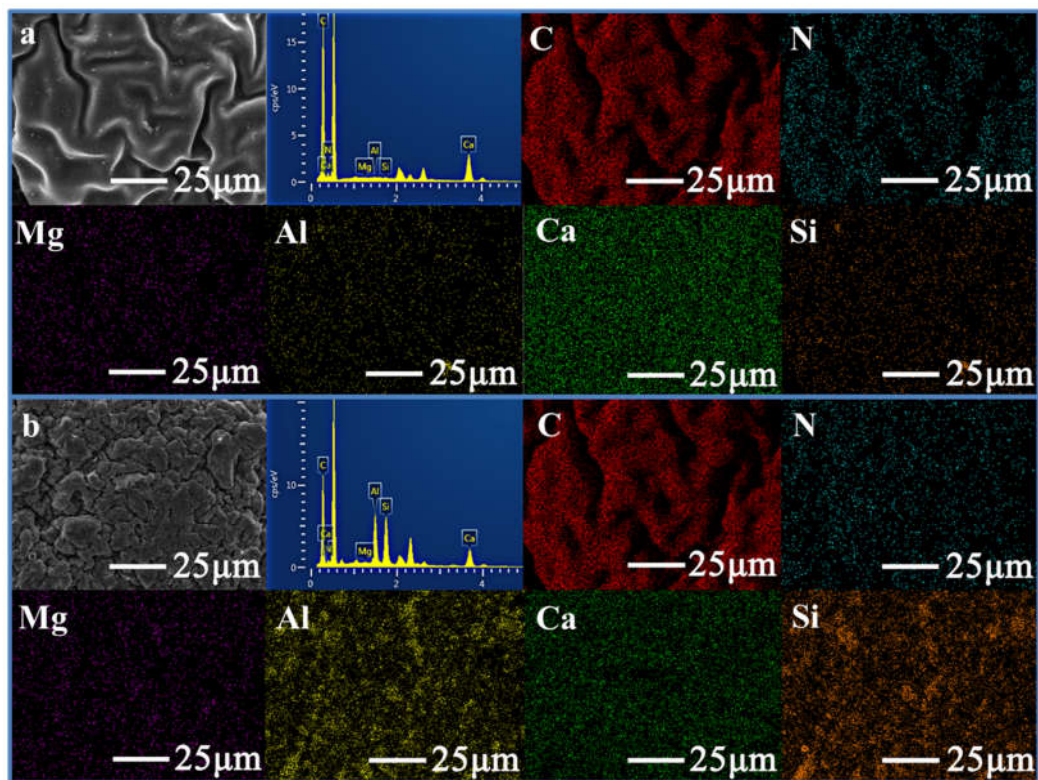
### 1.2 Characterizations

The surface morphologies of composite beads were examined using a Field Emission Scanning Electron microscope (SUPRA55, Carl Zeiss, Germany). The microscopic structure was observed with a high resolution transmission electron microscope (JEM-2100f, JEOL, Japan). Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were measured with a Nicolet iS10 spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher, USA). The crystallization state of the composite beads with different clay content was analyzed by a X-ray powder diffractometer (D8 Advance, Bruker, Germany) equipped with a Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation source (40 kV, 40 mA). X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) was measured with an ESCALAB Xi+ spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, American). After adsorption process, the composite beads were removed from the solution, and the concentration of residual dye in the solution was tested with a UV1900i UV–Vis spectrophotometer (Shimadzu, Japan). Zeta potentials were tested with a NanoBrook 90Plus Zeta Potentiometer (Brookhaven, USA). The concentration of Pb(II) ions was measured with a ZEEnit 700P Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (Analytic Jena, Germany). The content of Na in SA was determined with an Avio 200 ICP instrument (Perking Elmer, USA).

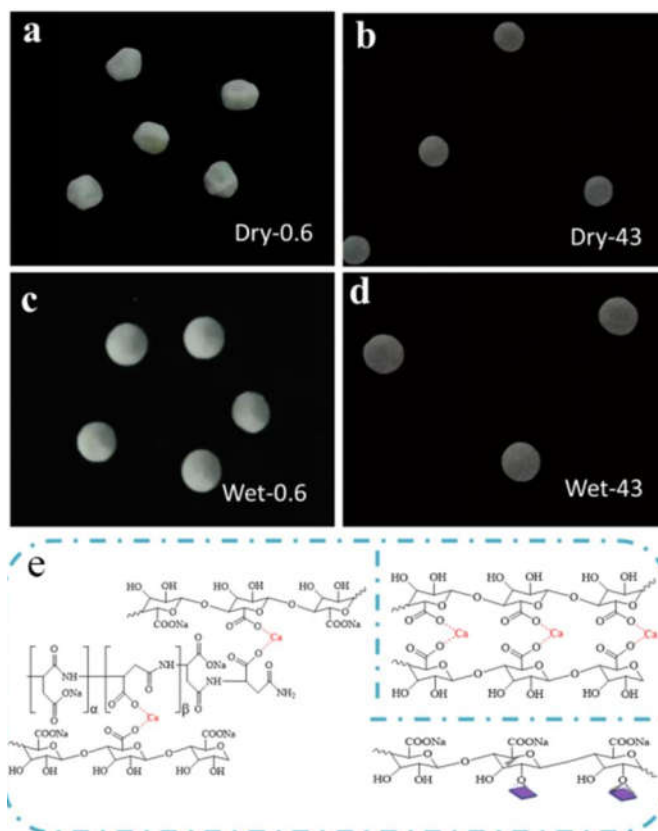
## Part II. Supplementary Figures



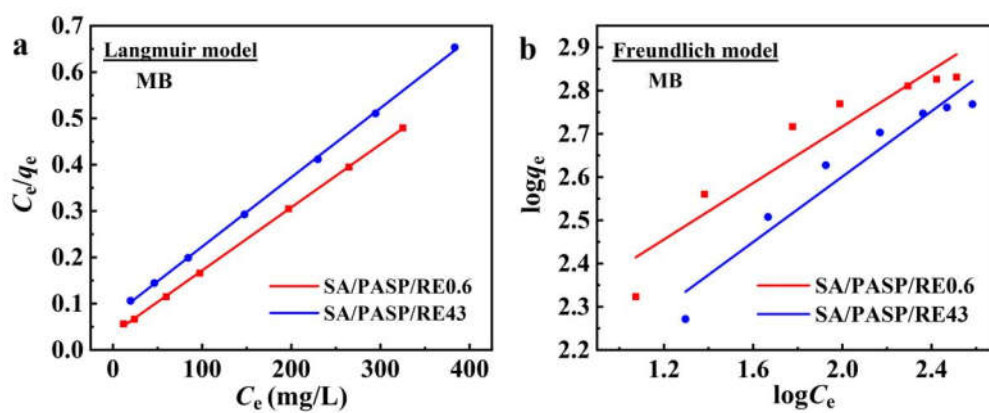
**Figure S1.** The structure scheme of SA, PASP, and RE [80].



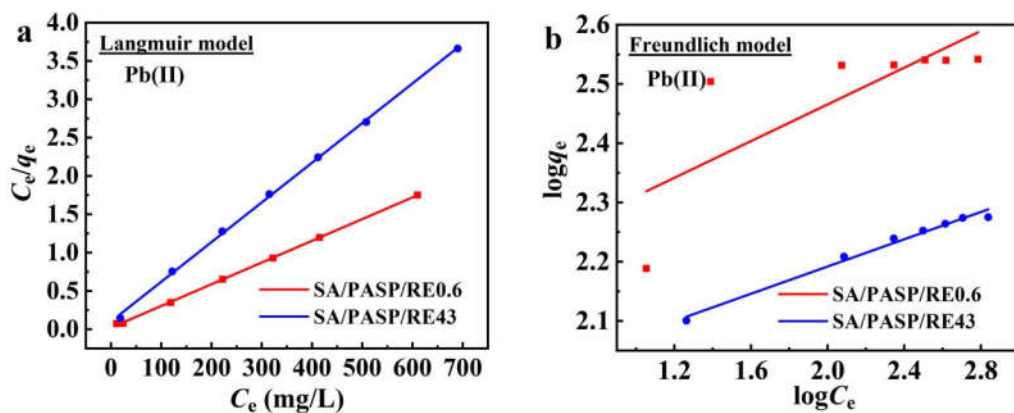
**Figure S2.** (a) SEM images, EDS curves and corresponding element mapping of C, N, Mg, Al, Ca, Si elements in SA/PASP/RE0.6; and (b) SEM image, EDS curves and corresponding element mapping of C, N, Mg, Al, Ca, Si elements in SA/PASP/RE43.



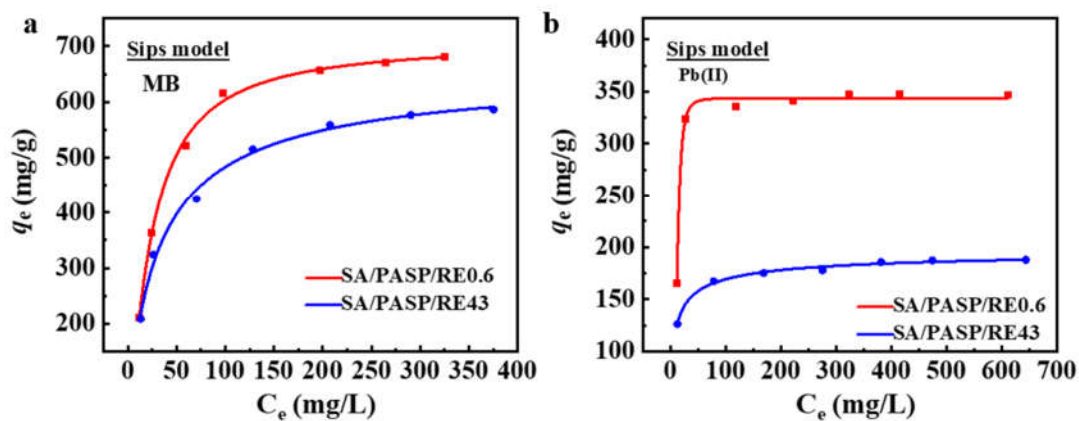
**Figure S3.** The digital photos of the SA/PASP/RE0.6 composite beads: (a) Dry state and (c) Wet-state; and the digital photos of the SA/PASP/RE43 composite beads: (b) Dry and (d) Wet-state; and (e) a scheme for the ion-crosslinking structure.



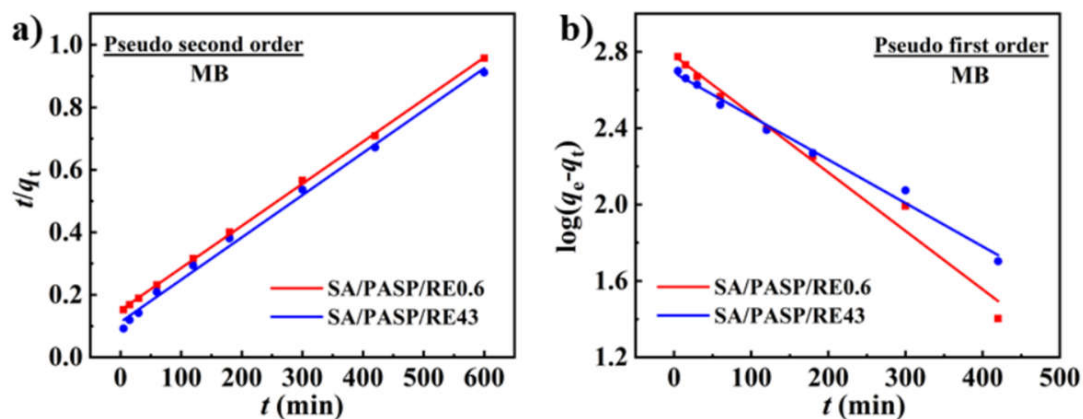
**Figure S4.** The linear fitting curves with Langmuir model (a) and the Freundlich model (b) for the adsorption of MB onto SA/PASP/RE0.6 and SA/PASP/RE43 beads.



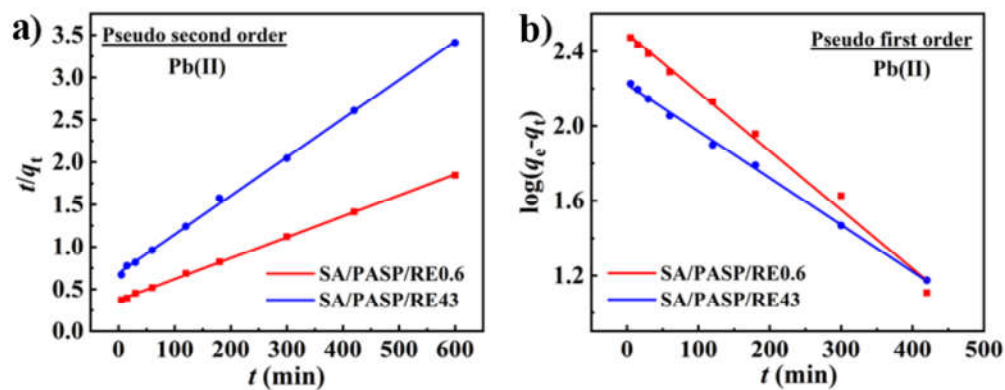
**Figure S5.** The linear fitting curves with Langmuir model (a) and the Freundlich model (b) for the adsorption of Pb(II) onto SA/PASP/RE0.6 and SA/PASP/RE43 beads.



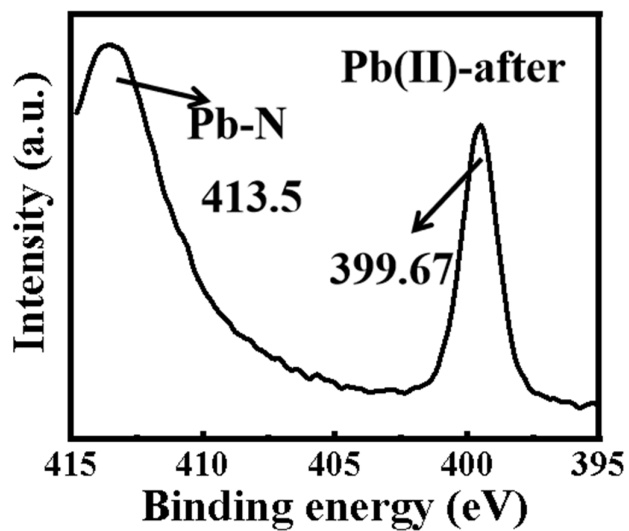
**Figure S6.** The nonlinear fitting curves with Sips model for the adsorption of MB (a) and Pb(II) (b) onto SA/PASP/RE0.6 and SA/PASP/RE43 beads.



**Figure S7.** The linear fitting curves with pseudo-second order (a) and pseudo-first order (b) kinetic models for the adsorption of MB onto the SA/PASP/RE0.6 and SA/PASP/RE43 beads.



**Figure S8.** The linear fitting curves with pseudo-first order (a) and pseudo-second order (b) kinetic models for the adsorption of Pb(II) onto the SA/PASP/RE0.6 and SA/PASP/RE43 beads.



**Figure S9.** N1s spectra before and after adsorption of Pb(II).



### Part III. Supplementary Tables

**Table S1.** Two-parameter adsorption model of the adsorption of MB and Pb(II) onto the composite beads.

Adsorbates	Samples	Langmuir			Freundlich		
		$K_L$ (L/mg)	$Q_m$ (mg/g)	$R^2$	$K_F$ (L/mg)	$n$	$R^2$
MB	SA/PASP/RE0.6	0.035	735.29	0.9997	2.064	3.06	0.8942
	SA/PASP/RE43	0.073	666.67	0.9995	1.844	1.28	0.9362
Pb(II)	SA/PASP/RE0.6	0.021	353.36	0.9996	2.156	6.46	0.5243
	SA/PASP/RE43	0.102	193.05	0.9992	1.961	8.69	0.9826

**Table S2.** Three-parameter adsorption model of the adsorption of MB and Pb(II) onto the composite beads.

Adsorbates	Samples	Sips			
		$K_s$ (L/g)	$\beta_s$	$a_s$ (L/mg)	$R^2$
MB	SA/PASP/RE0.6	14.8425	1.2211	0.0209	0.9977
	SA/PASP/RE43	36.1505	0.8465	0.0545	0.9943
Pb(II)	SA/PASP/RE0.6	0.1151	1.3266	0.0003	0.9959
	SA/PASP/RE43	85.955	0.8533	0.4296	0.9932

**Table S3.** Adsorption kinetic parameters for the adsorption of MB and Pb(II) ions onto the composite beads.

Adsorbates	Samples	Pseudo-first-order model			Pseudo-second order model		
		$K_1 \times 10^2$ (min <sup>-1</sup> )	$q_{e,cal,1}$ (mg/g)	$R^2$	$K_2 \times 10^5$ (min <sup>-1</sup> )	$q_{e,cal,2}$ (mg/g)	$R^2$
MB	SA/PASP/RE0.6	0.0070	602.56	0.9790	1.24	729.93	0.9995
	SA/PASP/RE45	0.0052	489.33	0.9921	0.99	636.94	0.9965
Pb(II)	SA/PASP/RE0.6	0.0073	309.03	0.9926	1.64	404.86	0.9996
	SA/PASP/RE45	0.0058	165.96	0.9984	3.01	219.30	0.9991

## References

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