

# **Contaminant removal from wastewater by microalgal photobioreactors and modeling by artificial neural network**

Amin Mojiri <sup>1,\*</sup>, Noriatsu Ozaki <sup>1</sup>, Reza Andasht Kazeroon <sup>2</sup>, Shahabaldin Rezania <sup>3</sup>,  
Maedeh Baharlooiean <sup>4</sup>, Mohammadtaghi Vakili <sup>5</sup>, Hossein Farraji <sup>6</sup>, Akiyoshi Ohashi <sup>1</sup>,  
Tomonori Kindaichi <sup>1</sup>, John L Zhou<sup>7,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering, Hiroshima University, Higashihiroshima 739-8527, Japan

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Civil Engineering, University Technology Mara (UiTM), Shah Alam 40450, Malaysia

<sup>3</sup>Department of Environment and Energy, Sejong University, Seoul 05006, Republic of Korea

<sup>4</sup>Department of Marine Biology, Faculty of Marine Science and Oceanography, Khorramshahr University of Marine Science and Technology, Khorramshahr 64199-34619, Iran

<sup>5</sup>Green Intelligence Environmental School, Yangtze Normal University, Chongqing 408100, China

<sup>6</sup>School of Physical and Chemical Sciences, University of Canterbury, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand

<sup>7</sup>Centre for Green Technology, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Technology Sydney, 15 Broadway, Sydney, NSW 2007, Australia

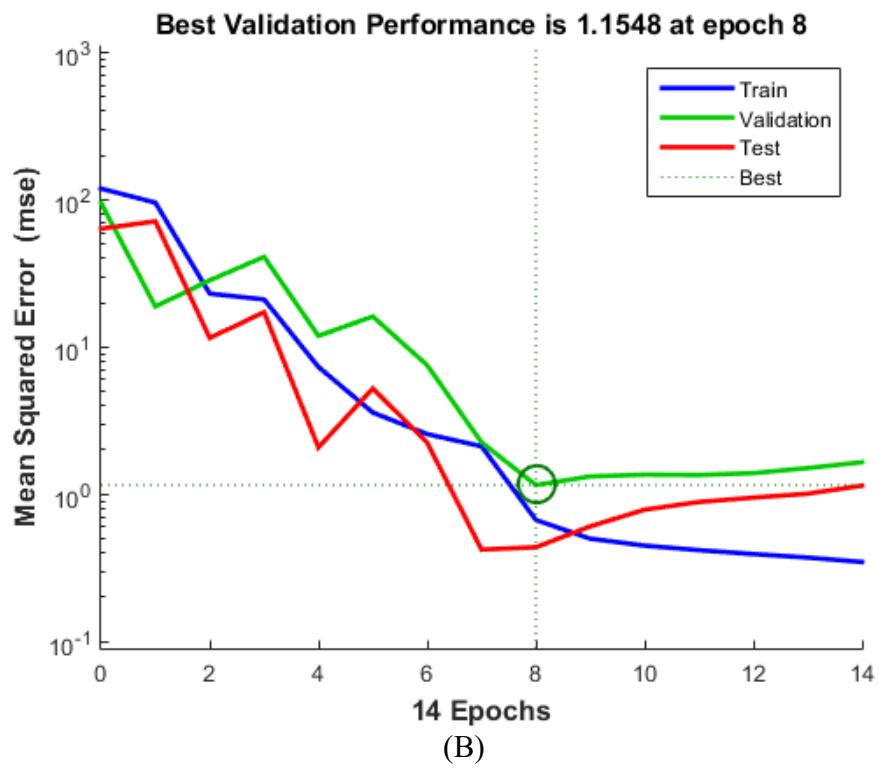
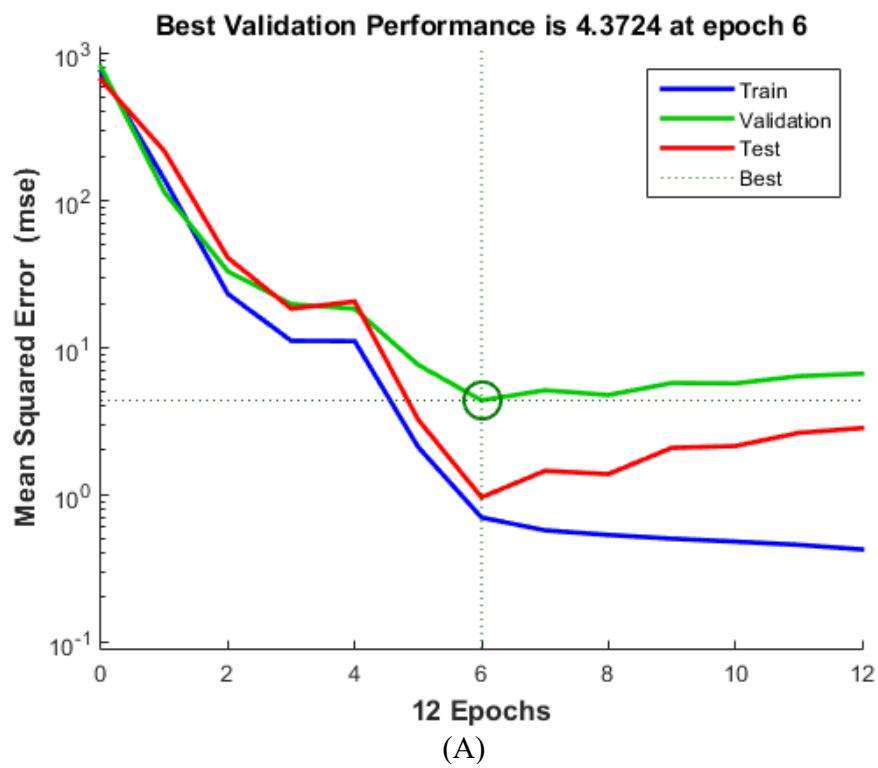
Correspondence: junliang.zhou@uts.edu.au

**Table S1.** Performance of reactor 1 in the removal of pollutants.

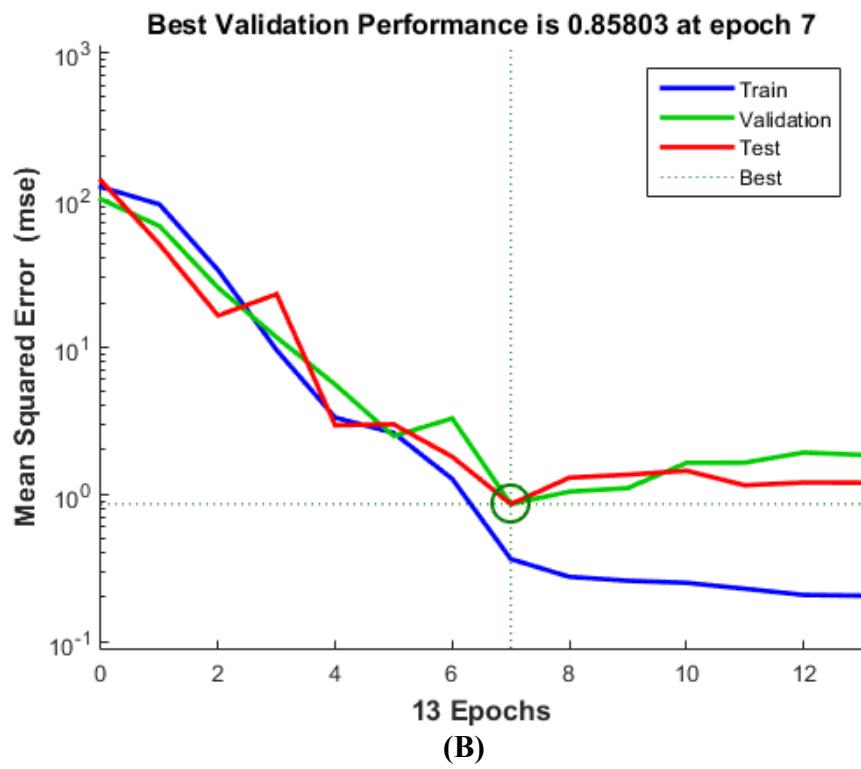
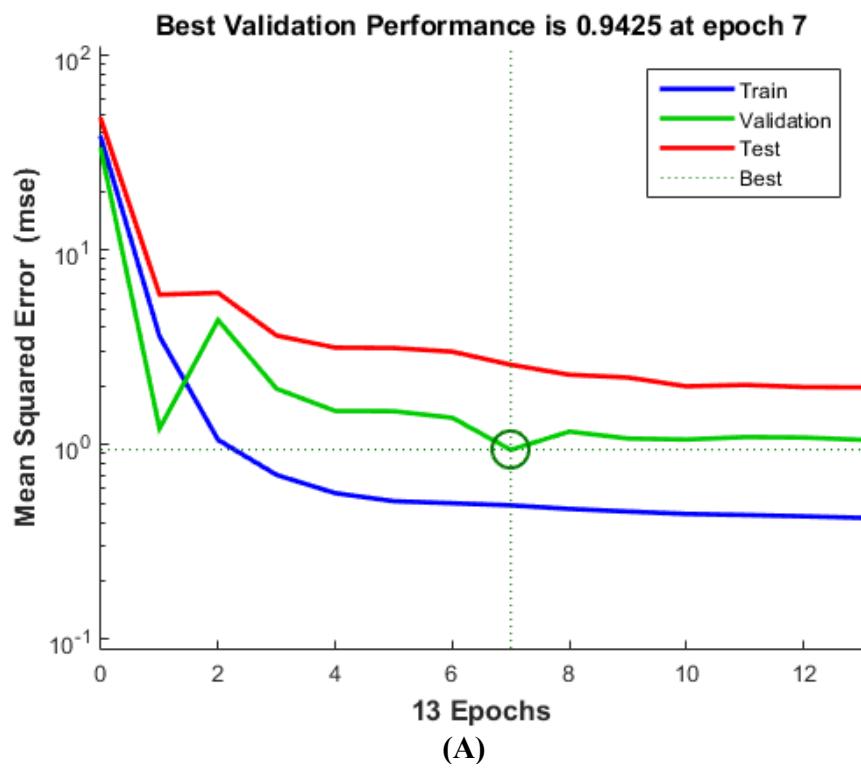
| Contact time (d) | Initial concentration (mg/L) | CAF removal (%) | CAF removal (mg/L) | DEET removal (%) | DEET Removal (mg/L) | TAN removal (%) | TAN removal (mg/L) | COD removal (%) | COD Removal (mg/L) |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1.0              | 0.2                          | 61.8            | 0.12               | 59.8             | 0.12                | 72.2            | 36.1               | 55.4            | 27.7               |
| 2.0              | 0.2                          | 64.3            | 0.13               | 63.7             | 0.13                | 76.4            | 38.2               | 57.7            | 28.9               |
| 3.0              | 0.2                          | 69.1            | 0.14               | 66.4             | 0.13                | 77.1            | 38.6               | 59.0            | 29.5               |
| 4.0              | 0.2                          | 70.2            | 0.14               | 68.9             | 0.14                | 77.9            | 39.0               | 60.3            | 30.2               |
| 5.0              | 0.2                          | 71.4            | 0.14               | 69.8             | 0.14                | 78.6            | 39.3               | 60.9            | 30.5               |
| 6.0              | 0.2                          | 70.8            | 0.14               | 70.6             | 0.14                | 79.3            | 39.7               | 61.4            | 30.7               |
| 7.0              | 0.2                          | 70.6            | 0.14               | 71.2             | 0.14                | 80.8            | 40.4               | 61.1            | 30.6               |
| 1.0              | 0.6                          | 62.9            | 0.38               | 62.1             | 0.37                | 72.2            | 57.8               | 56.8            | 45.4               |
| 2.0              | 0.6                          | 65.3            | 0.39               | 65.5             | 0.39                | 77.8            | 62.2               | 57.1            | 45.7               |
| 3.0              | 0.6                          | 74.6            | 0.45               | 67.6             | 0.41                | 80.6            | 64.5               | 59.8            | 47.8               |
| 4.0              | 0.6                          | 79.2            | 0.48               | 70.9             | 0.43                | 81.8            | 65.4               | 63.4            | 50.7               |
| 5.0              | 0.6                          | 82.1            | 0.49               | 71.4             | 0.43                | 82.3            | 65.8               | 67.7            | 54.2               |
| 6.0              | 0.6                          | 82.9            | 0.50               | 72.3             | 0.43                | 78.2            | 62.6               | 67.1            | 53.7               |
| 7.0              | 0.6                          | 83.1            | 0.50               | 72.6             | 0.44                | 78.0            | 62.4               | 66.9            | 53.5               |
| 1.0              | 1.0                          | 64.3            | 0.64               | 60.8             | 0.61                | 65.1            | 71.6               | 56.2            | 61.8               |
| 2.0              | 1.0                          | 67.2            | 0.67               | 62.1             | 0.62                | 67.6            | 74.4               | 57.1            | 62.8               |
| 3.0              | 1.0                          | 76.0            | 0.76               | 70.4             | 0.70                | 70.2            | 77.2               | 58.0            | 63.8               |
| 4.0              | 1.0                          | 80.5            | 0.81               | 72.6             | 0.73                | 73.5            | 80.9               | 59.1            | 65.0               |
| 5.0              | 1.0                          | 85.7            | 0.86               | 73.3             | 0.73                | 75.3            | 82.8               | 61.3            | 67.4               |
| 6.0              | 1.0                          | 83.1            | 0.83               | 71.9             | 0.72                | 76.2            | 83.8               | 61.6            | 67.8               |
| 7.0              | 1.0                          | 82.6            | 0.83               | 71.4             | 0.71                | 74.3            | 81.7               | 61.1            | 67.2               |
| 1.0              | 1.4                          | 59.3            | 0.83               | 49.8             | 0.70                | 60.1            | 84.1               | 52.4            | 73.4               |
| 2.0              | 1.4                          | 61.0            | 0.85               | 52.2             | 0.73                | 63.3            | 88.6               | 54.3            | 76.0               |
| 3.0              | 1.4                          | 64.8            | 0.91               | 55.9             | 0.78                | 67.0            | 93.8               | 55.2            | 77.3               |
| 4.0              | 1.4                          | 66.1            | 0.93               | 60.2             | 0.84                | 68.2            | 95.5               | 57.6            | 80.6               |
| 5.0              | 1.4                          | 68.7            | 0.96               | 60.6             | 0.85                | 68.2            | 95.5               | 58.3            | 81.6               |
| 6.0              | 1.4                          | 67.2            | 0.94               | 59.8             | 0.84                | 67.1            | 93.9               | 58.1            | 81.3               |
| 7.0              | 1.4                          | 67.0            | 0.94               | 58.6             | 0.82                | 66.8            | 93.5               | 57.9            | 81.1               |
| 1.0              | 1.8                          | 55.0            | 0.99               | 44.5             | 0.80                | 56.0            | 95.2               | 47.9            | 81.4               |
| 2.0              | 1.8                          | 55.1            | 0.99               | 45.3             | 0.82                | 58.8            | 100.0              | 52.3            | 88.9               |
| 3.0              | 1.8                          | 59.2            | 1.07               | 49.9             | 0.90                | 63.1            | 107.3              | 53.8            | 91.5               |
| 4.0              | 1.8                          | 60.9            | 1.10               | 52.1             | 0.94                | 66.4            | 112.9              | 56.0            | 95.2               |
| 5.0              | 1.8                          | 61.3            | 1.10               | 52.1             | 0.94                | 66.9            | 113.7              | 56.5            | 96.1               |
| 6.0              | 1.8                          | 61.1            | 1.10               | 51.8             | 0.93                | 65.2            | 110.8              | 56.9            | 96.7               |
| 7.0              | 1.8                          | 60.1            | 1.08               | 51.6             | 0.93                | 64.0            | 108.8              | 56.1            | 95.4               |
| 1.0              | 2.2                          | 52.6            | 1.16               | 41.8             | 0.92                | 53.3            | 106.6              | 46.2            | 92.4               |
| 2.0              | 2.2                          | 53.0            | 1.17               | 44.1             | 0.97                | 56.6            | 113.2              | 50.2            | 100.4              |
| 3.0              | 2.2                          | 59.2            | 1.30               | 47.2             | 1.04                | 59.2            | 118.4              | 51.9            | 103.8              |
| 4.0              | 2.2                          | 58.6            | 1.29               | 49.9             | 1.10                | 60.4            | 120.8              | 53.2            | 106.4              |
| 5.0              | 2.2                          | 57.6            | 1.27               | 51.3             | 1.13                | 59.1            | 118.2              | 54.7            | 109.4              |
| 6.0              | 2.2                          | 55.1            | 1.21               | 51.0             | 1.12                | 57.8            | 115.6              | 54.3            | 108.6              |
| 7.0              | 2.2                          | 54.6            | 1.20               | 50.6             | 1.11                | 56.1            | 112.2              | 53.9            | 107.8              |

**Table S2.** Performance of reactor 2 in the removal of pollutants.

| Contact time (d) | Initial concentration (mg/L) | CAF removal (%) | CAF removal (mg/L) | DEET removal (%) | DEET Removal (mg/L) | TAN removal (%) | TAN removal (mg/L) | COD removal (%) | COD Removal (mg/L) |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1.0              | 0.2                          | 52.3            | 0.10               | 44.9             | 0.09                | 54.1            | 27.1               | 49.4            | 24.7               |
| 2.0              | 0.2                          | 57.2            | 0.11               | 45.2             | 0.09                | 55.3            | 27.7               | 50.3            | 25.2               |
| 3.0              | 0.2                          | 58.4            | 0.12               | 46.8             | 0.09                | 57.8            | 28.9               | 50.8            | 25.4               |
| 4.0              | 0.2                          | 60.5            | 0.12               | 48.3             | 0.10                | 59.2            | 29.6               | 51.8            | 25.9               |
| 5.0              | 0.2                          | 61.8            | 0.12               | 50.1             | 0.10                | 60.8            | 30.4               | 52.4            | 26.2               |
| 6.0              | 0.2                          | 60.0            | 0.12               | 50.1             | 0.10                | 60.8            | 30.4               | 52.3            | 26.2               |
| 7.0              | 0.2                          | 59.1            | 0.12               | 49.6             | 0.10                | 58.4            | 29.2               | 51.6            | 25.8               |
| 1.0              | 0.6                          | 53.2            | 0.32               | 44.9             | 0.27                | 56.0            | 44.8               | 49.5            | 39.6               |
| 2.0              | 0.6                          | 57.8            | 0.35               | 45.4             | 0.27                | 55.9            | 44.7               | 50.7            | 40.6               |
| 3.0              | 0.6                          | 59.2            | 0.36               | 46.3             | 0.28                | 58.2            | 46.6               | 51.0            | 40.8               |
| 4.0              | 0.6                          | 61.0            | 0.37               | 48.9             | 0.29                | 61.0            | 48.8               | 52.1            | 41.7               |
| 5.0              | 0.6                          | 62.7            | 0.38               | 51.8             | 0.31                | 62.2            | 49.8               | 52.8            | 42.2               |
| 6.0              | 0.6                          | 61.1            | 0.37               | 50.7             | 0.30                | 59.0            | 47.2               | 51.4            | 41.1               |
| 7.0              | 0.6                          | 60.8            | 0.36               | 49.9             | 0.30                | 58.2            | 46.6               | 50.8            | 40.6               |
| 1.0              | 1.0                          | 49.9            | 0.50               | 42.8             | 0.43                | 50.0            | 55.0               | 46.2            | 50.8               |
| 2.0              | 1.0                          | 50.4            | 0.50               | 43.9             | 0.44                | 52.6            | 57.9               | 48.2            | 53.0               |
| 3.0              | 1.0                          | 55.3            | 0.55               | 45.1             | 0.45                | 53.9            | 59.3               | 50.7            | 55.8               |
| 4.0              | 1.0                          | 58.4            | 0.58               | 47.0             | 0.47                | 55.1            | 60.6               | 52.0            | 57.2               |
| 5.0              | 1.0                          | 60.2            | 0.60               | 49.8             | 0.50                | 57.3            | 63.0               | 52.6            | 57.9               |
| 6.0              | 1.0                          | 58.2            | 0.58               | 48.3             | 0.48                | 59.2            | 65.1               | 51.3            | 56.4               |
| 7.0              | 1.0                          | 57.3            | 0.57               | 47.5             | 0.48                | 56.9            | 62.6               | 51.1            | 56.2               |
| 1.0              | 1.4                          | 46.4            | 0.65               | 38.4             | 0.54                | 48.7            | 68.2               | 43.4            | 60.8               |
| 2.0              | 1.4                          | 47.8            | 0.67               | 40.2             | 0.56                | 51.3            | 71.8               | 45.6            | 63.8               |
| 3.0              | 1.4                          | 52.3            | 0.73               | 43.3             | 0.61                | 52.6            | 73.6               | 46.8            | 65.5               |
| 4.0              | 1.4                          | 54.0            | 0.76               | 45.7             | 0.64                | 54.3            | 76.0               | 48.5            | 67.9               |
| 5.0              | 1.4                          | 57.2            | 0.80               | 44.9             | 0.63                | 55.5            | 77.7               | 48.9            | 68.5               |
| 6.0              | 1.4                          | 54.1            | 0.76               | 43.0             | 0.60                | 56.2            | 78.7               | 47.2            | 66.1               |
| 7.0              | 1.4                          | 53.2            | 0.74               | 41.8             | 0.59                | 55.1            | 77.1               | 46.1            | 64.5               |
| 1.0              | 1.8                          | 42.4            | 0.76               | 34.0             | 0.61                | 45.1            | 76.7               | 40.9            | 69.5               |
| 2.0              | 1.8                          | 44.2            | 0.80               | 35.2             | 0.63                | 46.9            | 79.7               | 41.4            | 70.4               |
| 3.0              | 1.8                          | 45.7            | 0.82               | 37.1             | 0.67                | 47.6            | 80.9               | 43.6            | 74.1               |
| 4.0              | 1.8                          | 47.2            | 0.85               | 37.9             | 0.68                | 48.2            | 81.9               | 45.2            | 76.8               |
| 5.0              | 1.8                          | 51.1            | 0.92               | 38.3             | 0.69                | 48.8            | 83.0               | 45.9            | 78.0               |
| 6.0              | 1.8                          | 49.2            | 0.89               | 37.4             | 0.67                | 49.3            | 83.8               | 43.6            | 74.1               |
| 7.0              | 1.8                          | 46.8            | 0.84               | 36.7             | 0.66                | 48.1            | 81.8               | 42.0            | 71.4               |
| 1.0              | 2.2                          | 38.7            | 0.85               | 32.4             | 0.71                | 42.6            | 85.2               | 38.6            | 77.2               |
| 2.0              | 2.2                          | 40.9            | 0.90               | 33.9             | 0.75                | 44.8            | 89.6               | 40.2            | 80.4               |
| 3.0              | 2.2                          | 43.2            | 0.95               | 35.1             | 0.77                | 45.3            | 90.6               | 42.3            | 84.6               |
| 4.0              | 2.2                          | 44.7            | 0.98               | 36.7             | 0.81                | 46.1            | 92.2               | 43.6            | 87.2               |
| 5.0              | 2.2                          | 46.5            | 1.02               | 37.8             | 0.83                | 47.2            | 94.4               | 44.2            | 88.4               |
| 6.0              | 2.2                          | 45.6            | 1.00               | 36.3             | 0.80                | 48.1            | 96.2               | 43.0            | 86.0               |
| 7.0              | 2.2                          | 43.7            | 0.96               | 34.2             | 0.75                | 46.3            | 92.6               | 41.9            | 83.8               |



**Figure S1.** MSE versus the number of epochs for the removal of CAF (**A**) and DEET (**B**) in reactor 1.



**Figure S2.** MSE versus the number of epochs for the removal of CAF (A) and DEET (B) in reactor 2.