



**Figure S1.** Response surfaces at the central point levels for WS, UWS and SWS biosorbents: (a), (d), (g) effects of CV concentration (A) and pH (B) on removal efficiency (R); (b), (e), (h) effects of CV concentration (A) and biosorbent dose (C) on removal efficiency (R); (c), (f), (i) effect of pH (B) and biosorbent dose (C) on removal efficiency (R).

Table S1. Experimental data of adsorption experiments

| Nº | A     | B     | C     | initial CV conc., mg/L | pH   | sorbent dose, g/L | light abs. at 590 nm* |      |      |      | residual CV concentr, mg/L |       |      |      |
|----|-------|-------|-------|------------------------|------|-------------------|-----------------------|------|------|------|----------------------------|-------|------|------|
|    |       |       |       |                        |      |                   | WS                    | UWS  | SWS  | SUWS | WS                         | UWS   | SWS  | SUWS |
| 1  | -1    | -1    | -1    | 35                     | 4    | 2.5               | 0.50                  | 1.01 | 0.83 | 1.18 | 2.38                       | 4.79  | 3.94 | 5.62 |
| 2  | 1     | -1    | -1    | 85                     | 4    | 2.5               | 2.77                  | 2.12 | 1.83 | 1.45 | 15.86                      | 10.02 | 8.65 | 6.87 |
| 3  | -1    | 1     | -1    | 35                     | 8    | 2.5               | 0.82                  | 1.77 | 0.45 | 0.63 | 3.91                       | 8.39  | 2.15 | 3.03 |
| 4  | 1     | 1     | -1    | 85                     | 8    | 2.5               | 2.64                  | 2.14 | 1.51 | 1.45 | 14.22                      | 10.12 | 7.17 | 6.84 |
| 5  | -1    | -1    | 1     | 35                     | 4    | 7.5               | 0.10                  | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.49                       | 0.77  | 0.62 | 0.46 |
| 6  | 1     | -1    | 1     | 85                     | 4    | 7.5               | 0.73                  | 1.07 | 0.62 | 0.74 | 3.47                       | 5.08  | 2.98 | 3.51 |
| 7  | -1    | 1     | 1     | 35                     | 8    | 7.5               | 0.10                  | 0.07 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.51                       | 0.38  | 0.53 | 0.47 |
| 8  | 1     | 1     | 1     | 85                     | 8    | 7.5               | 0.38                  | 0.88 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 1.83                       | 4.19  | 1.32 | 1.13 |
| 9  | -1.68 | 0     | 0     | 17.95                  | 6    | 5                 | 0.07                  | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.38                       | 0.33  | 0.39 | 0.27 |
| 10 | 1.68  | 0     | 0     | 102.05                 | 6    | 5                 | 2.16                  | 0.46 | 1.34 | 0.70 | 10.18                      | 2.22  | 6.36 | 3.36 |
| 11 | 0     | -1.68 | 0     | 60                     | 2.64 | 5                 | 2.48                  | 2.14 | 1.42 | 1.45 | 11.70                      | 10.09 | 6.71 | 6.88 |
| 12 | 0     | 1.68  | 0     | 60                     | 9.36 | 5                 | 0.50                  | 0.91 | 0.97 | 1.10 | 2.38                       | 4.33  | 4.60 | 5.21 |
| 13 | 0     | 0     | -1.68 | 60                     | 6    | 0.80              | 2.79                  | 2.14 | 1.83 | 1.45 | 16.12                      | 10.12 | 8.66 | 6.88 |
| 14 | 0     | 0     | 1.68  | 60                     | 6    | 9.21              | 0.22                  | 0.22 | 0.24 | 0.13 | 1.07                       | 1.08  | 1.18 | 0.68 |
| 15 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 60                     | 6    | 5                 | 0.61                  | 0.72 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.94                       | 3.44  | 1.30 | 1.12 |
| 16 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 60                     | 6    | 5                 | 0.61                  | 0.72 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.94                       | 3.44  | 1.30 | 1.12 |
| 17 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 60                     | 6    | 5                 | 0.61                  | 0.72 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.94                       | 3.44  | 1.30 | 1.12 |
| 18 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 60                     | 6    | 5                 | 0.61                  | 0.72 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.94                       | 3.44  | 1.30 | 1.12 |
| 19 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 60                     | 6    | 5                 | 0.61                  | 0.72 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.94                       | 3.44  | 1.30 | 1.12 |
| 20 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 60                     | 6    | 5                 | 0.61                  | 0.72 | 0.27 | 0.23 | 2.94                       | 3.44  | 1.30 | 1.12 |