

Objectives and activities - Stage I-2017

O1. Investigate composite particles structure-property relationship;

1.1. Produce three lots of composite particles with three lots of chitosan using the already developed small scale procedure

1.2. Investigate the influence of the raw material (chitosan) characteristics upon the composite particle properties

O2. Optimize small scale technology for composite particle synthesis;

2.1. Identify the changes in synthesis parameters that compensate for chitosan variability

2.2. Elaborate an experimental model that relates raw material and product properties using design of experiment methodology and statistical analysis; verify model hypotheses

O3. Scale-up adsorbent synthesis procedure

3.1. Pilot-scale parameter study (stirring rate, addition rate, temperature, solution concentration)

3.2. Propose and optimize a cost-effective cleaning procedure

3.3. Particle characterization (size, magnetization, concentration of surface functional groups)

3.4. Reproducibility study

Results and conclusions

The parameter study followed the following variables:

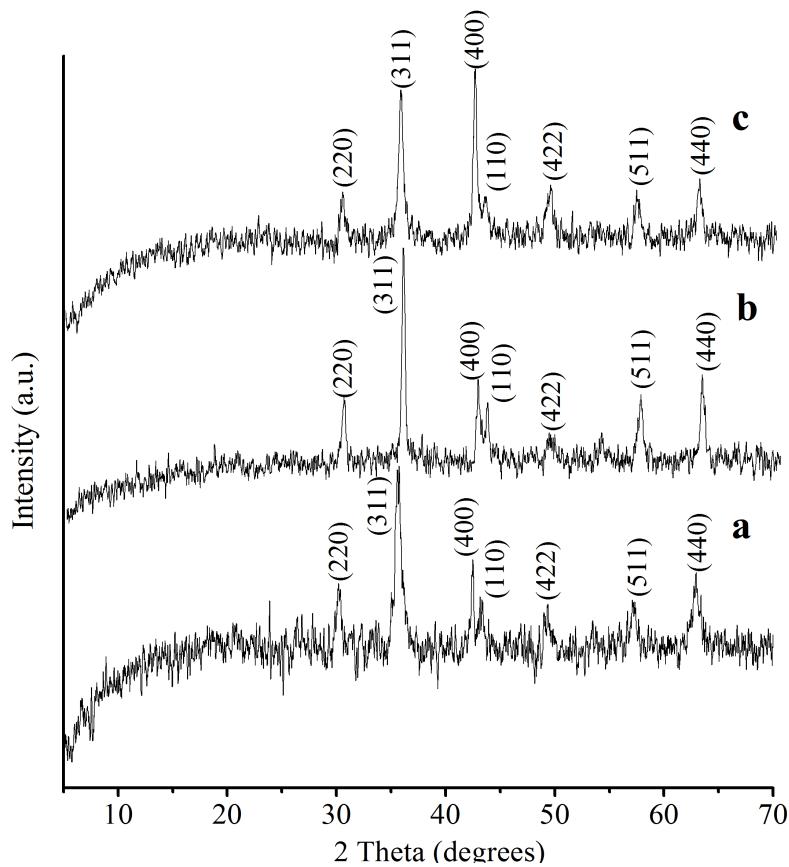
1. Input variables
 - a. Chitosan properties (deacetylation degree, solution viscosity)
 - b. Iron chloride amount
 - c. Ammonia concentration
 - d. Glutaraldehyde concentration
2. Output parameters
 - a. Adsorption capacity for RB19 anionic dye
 - b. Saturation magnetization
 - c. Average particle diameter
 - d. Synthesis yield

Influence of chitosan properties:

Batch	CS DDA, %	CS viscosity, CPS	Yield, %	Magnetization, emu/g	Particle size Dv/Dn, $\mu\text{m}/\mu\text{m}$	Qe RB19, mg/g
MagCS3_1	83	53	72	17.4	169/46	703
MagCS1_2	92.2	42	99	15.9	191/73	785
MagCS2_1	96.1	35	93	17.6	148/43	774

Influence of the iron chloride amount:

Batch	FeCl₂.4H₂O g	[NH ₃] M	[GA] %	Magnetization, emu/g	Particle size Dv/Dn, μm/μm	Yield, %	Qe RB19, mg/g
MagCS2_1	1	0.5	5	17.6	148/43	96	774
MagCS2_3	1.5	0.5	5	25.6	119/55	75	783
MagCS2_2	2	0.5	5	31.0	268/186	82	730



Influence of the ammonia concentration:

Batch	FeCl₂.4H₂O g	[NH ₃] M	[GA] %	Magnetization, emu/g	Particle size Dv/Dn, μm/μm	Yield, %	Qe RB19, mg/g
MagCS2_3	1.5	0.5	5	25.6	119/55	75	783
MagCS2_4	1.5	0.6	5	26.1	193/77	82	793
MagCS2_5	1.5	0.8	5	25.2	239/146	89	777

Influence of glutaraldehyde concentration:

Batch	FeCl ₂ .4H ₂ O g	[NH ₃] M	[GA] %	Magnetization, emu/g	Particle size Dv/Dn, μm/μm	Yield, %	Qe RB19, mg/g
MagCS2_7	1.5	0.8	4		254/173	92	771
MagCS2_5	1.5	0.8	5	25.2	239/146	89	777
MagCS2_6	1.5	0.8	6		244/152	96	699

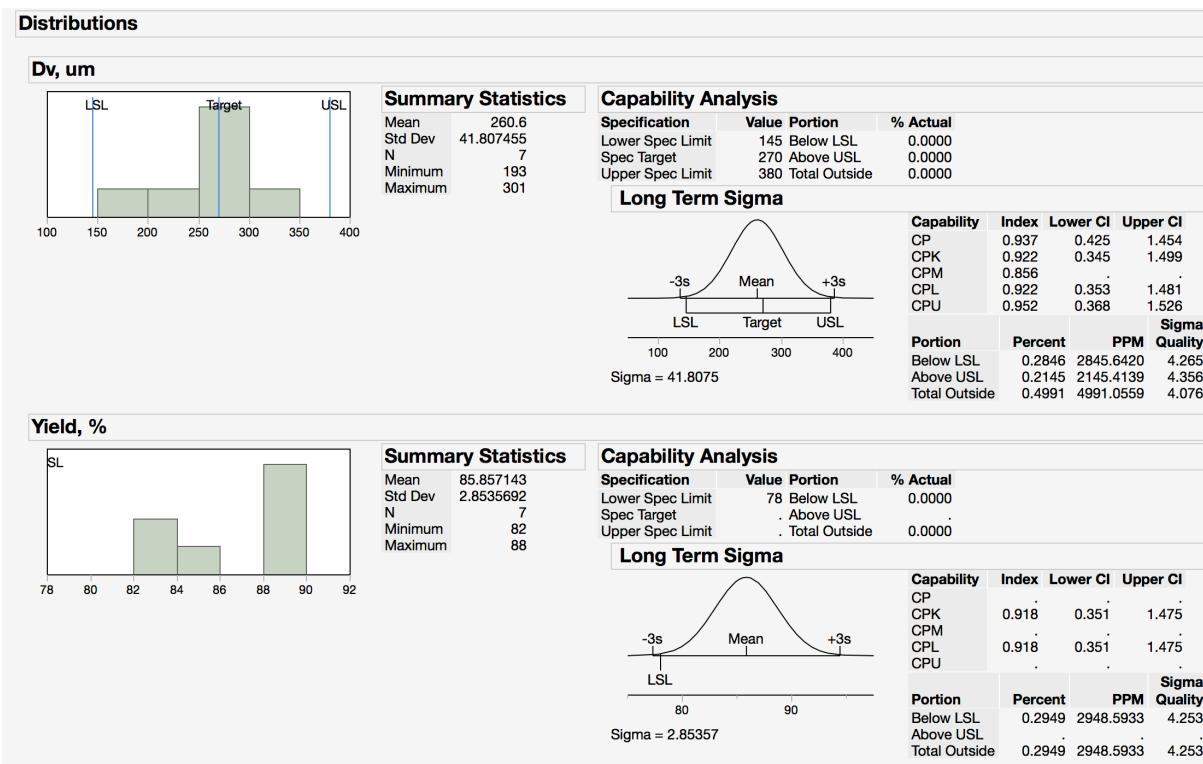
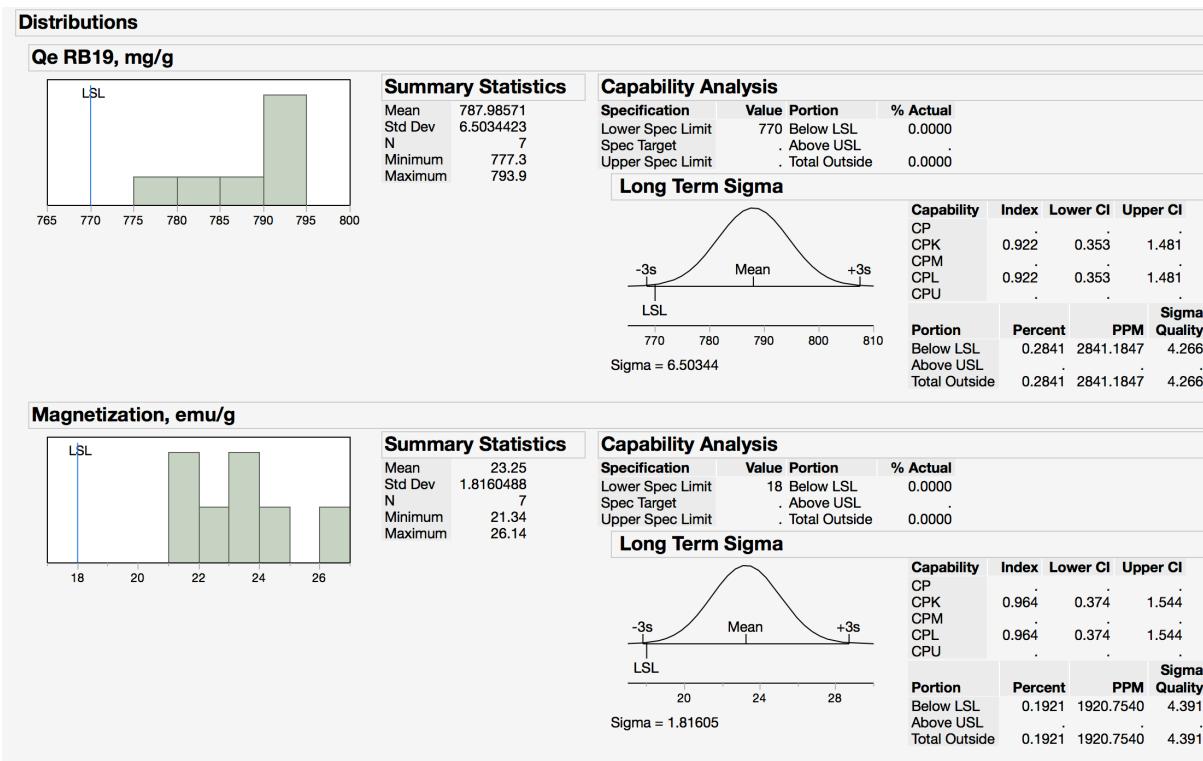
Reproducibility study after optimization:

Batch	FeCl ₂ .4H ₂ O g	[NH ₃] M	[GA] %	Yield, %	Magnetization, emu/g	Particle size Dv/Dn, μm/μm	Qe ² RB19, mg/g
MagCS3_2	1.5	0.6	4	88	23.9	215/98	781
MagCS1_3	1.5	0.6	5	82	23.2	259/181	777
MagCS2_4	1.5	0.6	5	82	26.1	193/77	793

Pilot scale results:

Batch	FeCl ₂ .4H ₂ O g	[NH ₃] M	[GA] %	Yield, %	Magnetization, emu/g	Particle size Dv/Dn, μm/μm	Qe ² RB19, mg/g
MagCS2_9	1.5x2	0.6	5	85.0	22.0	296/223	786.8
MagCS2_10	1.5x2	0.6	5	88.1	21.4	289/209	793.9
MagCS2_11	1.5x2	0.6	5	88.4	24.8	301/230	791.9
MagCS2_8	1.5x2	0.6	5 (New lot)	72.3	23.4	292/216	681.9
MagCS2_12	1.5x2	0.6	4 (New lot)	88.3	21.3	270/181	791.9

Statistical analysis for proposing product specification:



Conclusions:

- The synthesis procedure is robust with respect to chitosan variability within the investigated range
- Lower degree of deacetylation in chitosan may be compensated by decreasing the crosslink level

- Magnetization may be increased by using more iron salt, without affecting the purity of the magnetite component
- A scaled-up reproducible procedure was developed and validated
- A simple cleaning procedure was developed
- Quality control and product specifications:
 - Q_e (RB19) > 770 mg/g
 - Magnetization > 18 emu/g
 - $D_v = 145 - 380$ mm
 - Yield > 78%
- Process capability was verified