August 16, 2016

Dear Editor,

We would like to submit our manuscript entitled “**A New** **Thiamine Functionalized Silica Microparticules as a Sorbent for Removal of Lead, Mercury and Cadmium Ions in Aqueous Media”** by Sabahattin Deniz, Neşe Taşci, Ece Kök Yetimoğlu and Memet Vezir Kahraman, to be considered for publication in ***Journal of Serbian Chemical Society***.

In recent years, a considerable attention has been drawn to prevent environmental pollution arising from metal ions. That’s why preparing environmental friendly adsorbent materials are having an important issue.

In this manuscript, we report a novel, environmental friendly and tough adsorption material (**M3APS**) that is an adsorbent for Lead, Mercury and Cadmium Ions. The characterization of **M3APS** was carried out by FTIR and SEM. Adsorption studies indicate that the selectivity of **M3APS** for these metal ions was observed as having the follows: Pb(II)>Hg(II)>Cd(II). The Gibbs free energy ($∆G$) of the adsorption was calculated for optimum conditions and the data showed that adsorption process was thermodynamically spontaneous under optimum conditions.

Competitive adsorption of metal ions by **M3APS** also performed in synthetic wastewater, CRM such as SPS-WW1 Batch 109 wastewater and tap water by spiking a certain amount of metal ions. These results suggest that **M3APS** has a great potential for the removal of toxic heavy metals from wastewater.

The authors have declared that this manuscript is original, has not been published elsewhere, is currently not being considered for publication by any other journal and will not be submitted for such a review while under review by the Journal. This manuscipt has been written by the authors: **Sabahattin Deniz, Neşe Tasci, Ece Kök Yetimoglu** and **Memet Vezir Kahraman**. The manuscript contains no libellous or other unlawful statements and does not contain any materials that violate any personal or proprietary rights of any other person or entity.

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Thank you for your consideration and looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

**Dr. Sabahattin DENİZ, Corresponding Author**