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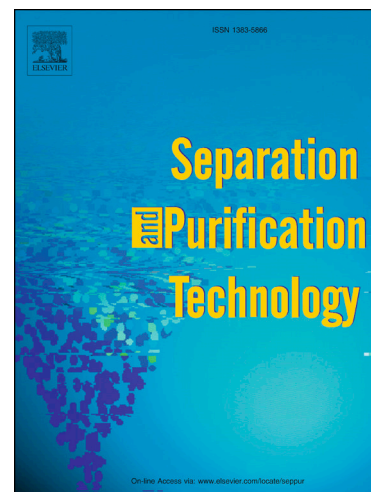
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## Efficiency maximization of fixed-bed adsorption by applying hybrid statistical-phenomenological modeling

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**Abstract:** The objective of this work was to maximize the efficiency of the ciprofloxacin (CIP) removal in fixed-bed column, packed with SGC650H resin, by the optimization of the volumetric flow rate ( $Q$ ) and bed height ( $H_{bed}$ ). For this, a hybrid procedure based on statistical and phenomenological modeling was used. Based on a central composite rotatable design (CCRD) the conditions of  $Q$  and  $H_{bed}$  were defined to obtain breakthrough curves, wherein only 8 of a total of 11 assays were experimentally obtained. Based on the resin textural characterization and molecular dimensions analysis of the ciprofloxacin, phenomenological models were employed to describe the experimental data. The most accurate mathematical model for the breakthrough curves description, namely, adsorption on the sites model (AS) was validated with the experimental results of the CCRD and further used to predict other experimental

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