



# Characteristics and Kinetic Analysis of Sorption Performance of Functionalised Biomass by Various Acidic Agents

*Çeşitli Asidik Ajanlar ile Fonksiyonelleştirilmiş Biyokütlenin Özellikleri ve Sorpsiyon Performansının Kinetik Analizi*

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## Abstract

In this study, kiwi fruit peels were functionalized using hydrochloric acid (HCl), sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and phosphoric acid (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>). The properties of the functionalized materials were determined. Fourier transform infrared spectrometer (FTIR) used to show functional groups caused by the agents. Crystalline or amorphous structure clarified by X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis. Scanning electron microscope (SEM) revealed the changes by acidic agents on the surface of kiwi peel. The elemental composition was examined using energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) analysis. The performance of kiwi peels functionalized with different acidic agents in sorption experiments were investigated. Kiwi peel functionalized with hydrochloric acid (HAFKP), kiwi peel functionalized with sulphuric acid (SAFKP), and kiwi peel functionalized with phosphoric acid (PAFKP) exhibited 94.53, 98.62, and 96.76% sorption, respectively, from 50 mL of 10 mg/L dye solution for 0.1 g after 24 h. The data obtained for the sorption of the materials were evaluated with kinetic models. Pseudo-first order, pseudo-second order, Elovich and Bangham models considered the processes as time-dependent. The processes carried out with HAFKP and PAFKP were fit the pseudo-second order kinetic model and determined to interact strongly with dye via chemical bonds. SAFKP, on the other hand, interacts physically with dye according to the pseudo-first order kinetic model.

**Keywords:** Characterization, functionalization, kinetics, kiwi.

## Öz

Bu çalışmada kiwi kabukları hidroklorik asit (HCl), sülfürik asit (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) ve fosforik asit (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>) kullanılarak fonksiyonelleştirildi. Fonksiyonelleştirilmiş malzemelerin özellikleri belirlendi. Ajanların neden olduğu fonksiyonel grupları göstermek için Fourier dönüşümlü kızılötesi spektrometresi (FTIR) kullanıldı. X-ışını kırınımı (XRD) analiziyle kristal veya amorf yapı açıklandı. Taramalı elektron mikroskobu (SEM), kiwi kabuğunun yüzeyinde asidik ajanların neden olduğu değişiklikleri ortaya koydu. Elementel bileşim, enerji dağılımlı X-ışını spektroskopisi (EDX) analizi kullanılarak incelendi. Farklı asidik ajanlarla fonksiyonelleştirilen kiwi kabuklarının sorpsiyon deneylerindeki performansı araştırıldı. Hidroklorik asit ile fonksiyonelleştirilmiş kiwi kabuğu (HAFKP), sülfürik asit ile fonksiyonelleştirilmiş kiwi kabuğu (SAFKP) ve fosforik asit ile fonksiyonelleştirilmiş kiwi kabuğu (PAFKP) 0.1 g için 24 saat sonra 50 mL'lik 10 mg/L boya çözeltisinden sırasıyla % 94.53, 98.62 ve 96.76 sorpsiyon sergiledi. Malzemelerin sorpsiyonu için elde edilen veriler kinetik modellerle değerlendirildi. Yalancı birinci derece, yalancı ikinci derece, Elovich ve Bangham modelleri prosesleri zamana bağlı olarak ele aldı. HAFKP ve PAFKP ile gerçekleştirilen proseslerin yalancı ikinci derece kinetik modele uyduğu ve boya ile kimyasal bağlar yoluyla kuvvetli etkileşime girdikleri belirlendi. SAFKP ise yalancı birinci dereceden kinetik modele göre boya ile fiziksel olarak etkileşime girdi.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Karakterizasyon, fonksiyonelleştirme, kinetikler, kiwi.

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## 1. Introduction

Biomass is agricultural and industrial materials such as wood, annual crops, and agricultural and forestry residues that are rich in fixed carbon (Panichkittikul et al. 2024). Materials obtained from agricultural wastes, industrial by-products and typical wastes can be used to remove impurities in sorption processes (Araujo et al. 2021). In addition to their low cost, carbonaceous materials exhibit high surface area and porosity and superior stability properties (Taylor et al. 2024). One way to best utilize biomass is to apply it as a precursor to the production of bio-based carbon porous materials (dos Reis et al. 2022).

Materials can be activated by applying physical and chemical processes (Tang et al. 2023). The chemical method involves treating the material with chemicals (Pereira et al. 2014). Although chemicals are used for this method, physical activation requires a long time and high temperature and energy needs (Yossa et al. 2020). Functional groups can be introduced by chemical treatment to ensure the affinity of materials to impurities in the aqueous environment (Gita et al. 2023). Moreover, chemical activation results in high carbon yield, large surface area and well-developed porous structure (Kılıç et al. 2012). Different reactions occur for different agents, as explained by Xing et al (Xing et al. 2019). Chemical agents cause strong cross-links through dehydration and elimination reactions, prevent volume shrinkage, provide high porosity and add functional groups to the material (Guo and Lua 2003). Chemical treatment agents can be acidic, alkaline and oxidizing agents, metal salts and a combination thereof (Zhang et al. 2023). Commonly used acidic activating agents are nitric acid, hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, and phosphoric acid (España et al. 2019).

Dyes are difficult to remove from wastewater because they are resistant to biological degradation (Zhu et al. 2014). The elimination of crystal violet, an alkaline dye, from industrial wastewater attracts attention in terms of water improvement (Gupta et al. 2023). It is used in many areas such as fabric dyeing, adhesive tapes, ink production, leather processing, food industry, fingerprint detection and veterinary medicine (Abd El-Hamid et al. 2022, Kumbhar et al. 2022). Since crystal violet is widely used as a dye with high economic value, it is mixed in effluents and therefore poses a health risk (Huang et al. 2023). It can be more toxic than many other types of dyes due to the production of dangerous aromatic amino products (Benhalima et al. 2023). Its complex structure makes it more toxic and dangerous than anionic dyes (Tan et al. 2023). Even very low concentrations

(1 mg/L) threaten living life by negatively affecting light transmission to aquatic environments (Loganathan et al. 2022). Therefore, its effective removal from water is of great necessity (Wu et al. 2021).

In this study, it is aimed to determine the changes caused by different acidic agents in the properties of kiwi peels, to evaluate the effects of each acidic agent individually and to compare them with each other. In addition, the sorption performances provided by the properties that each acidic agent brings to the kiwi peels and the kinetics of the sorptions were investigated. In the literature, many different biomass such as algae (Kumar et al. 2016), green seaweed (Bertoni et al. 2015), soy hull (Blanes et al. 2016), flower (Lingamdinne et al. 2016), hickory chips, cotton stalks and peanut hulls (Ding et al. 2014), exhausted coffee (Liu et al. 2016), reed (Rawajfih and Nsour 2008) and hazelnut and almond shell (Pehlivan et al. 2009) have been used for sorption purposes. There have been studies involving kiwi peels in sorption processes, and it is noteworthy that these studies are current. Gubitosa et al. (2022) used kiwi peels as adsorbent for Ciprofloxacin removal. A Zn-Fe biochar (KB/Zn-Fe) was designed from a kiwi branch and used in Pb (II) removal from an aqueous solution by Tan et al. (2022a). There is a study in which chitosan-modified kiwi branch biochar was prepared for Cd (II) removal (Tan et al. 2022b). Gong et al. (2024) produced manganese dioxide-decorated kiwi peel powder for the removal of Pb<sup>2+</sup>. Unlike previous studies, this study revealed the changes in the properties of kiwi peels with hydrochloric acid (HCl), sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and phosphoric acid (H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>). In addition, the effect of each agent on the crystal violet sorption performance of kiwi peels was investigated. In this way, the preparation of kiwi peels with a different method and the use of a different material for sorption than the studies on kiwi mentioned above demonstrates the innovative aspect of the study. The important points of the study that contribute to the studies in this field are that a detailed study is carried out by determining the effects of different agents for both characterization and sorption, that a wide scope is provided for the study by comparing various functionalizations, and that the study includes an easy process with common chemicals as a preparation method. In addition, according to the literature reviews above, the fact that the studies on kiwi are from recent years shows that studies on kiwi have intensified, and it is seen that this study carried out in this direction is currently remarkable.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Functionalization of Biomass

Kiwi fruits were purchased from a market in Bilecik. They were peeled and the peels were collected. It was left to dry for approximately 2 months in the presence of sunlight. The dried peels were broken and ground. It was then functionalized by HCl ( $\geq 37\%$ , Honeywell Fluka),  $H_2SO_4$  (95-97%, Honeywell Riedel-de Haen) and  $H_3PO_4$  (orthophosphoric acid, 85%, Carlo Erba). Acidic agents were used without any treatment or dilution. Material preparation was carried out by chemical treatment similar to previous studies (Van Veenhuizen et al. 2021, Almeida et al. 2021). 8 g of ground kiwi peel was placed in 60 mL of acid and stirred slowly for 2 h at  $90^\circ C$  for effective contact. Then, it was kept at  $90^\circ C$  for 2 h without mixing. Kiwi peels functionalized with acidic agents were washed several times with 0.5M sodium hydroxide (NaOH, Carlo Erba) solution. It was washed with distilled water and the pH was ensured to reach between 6-7. Kiwi peels were dried in an oven at  $105^\circ C$ . Raw kiwi peels were named KP, and kiwi peels prepared by functionalizing using HCl,  $H_2SO_4$  and  $H_3PO_4$  were called HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP, respectively.

### 2.2. Sorption

Sorption studies were carried out with kiwi peels prepared by functionalizing them with acidic agents. The sorption efficiency of HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP was investigated by preparing simulated wastewater containing crystal violet (Fluka) dye. Simulated wastewater was prepared at its own pH value and in a volume of 50 mL, containing dye at an initial concentration of 10 mg/L. A shaking water bath was used for the experiments. The experiments were repeated twice. Absorbance values of aqueous solutions including the dye were determined by Ultraviolet-Visible region (UV-Vis) spectroscopy at 590 nm wavelength and recorded. These values were converted to concentration values using the absorbance versus concentration curve prepared at different concentrations of the dye. The concentration values were used to calculate the sorption percentage and capacity given in Equations (1) and (2), respectively (Manzar et al. 2023):

$$\text{sorption \%} = \frac{(C_0 - C_e)}{C_0} \times 100 \quad (1)$$

$$q_t = \frac{(C_0 - C_t) V}{m} \quad (2)$$

$C_0$ ,  $C_e$  and  $C_t$  represent the initial, equilibrium and concentration values at any time  $t$  ( $mg L^{-1}$ ),  $q_t$  indicates the

sorption capacity ( $mg g^{-1}$ ),  $V$  represents the solution volume (L), and  $m$  indicates the mass of the material (g), respectively (Manzar et al. 2023).

#### 2.2.1. Kinetics

Kinetic studies were carried out to evaluate the processes in which HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP were used in sorption processes. The equations used are listed below (Cui et al. 2015, Berhane et al. 2017, Veneu et al. 2019):

Pseudo-first order kinetic model:

$$q_t = q_e (1 - e^{-k_1 t}) \quad (3)$$

Pseudo-second order kinetic model:

$$q_t = \frac{q_e^2 k_2 t}{1 + q_e k_2 t} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Elovich model: } q_t = \frac{1}{\beta} \ln(\beta \alpha t + 1) \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Bangham model: } q_t = k_3 t^{\alpha \beta} \quad (6)$$

$q_e$  indicates the amount retained in the solid at equilibrium ( $mg g^{-1}$ ), and  $k_1$  is the pseudo-first order reaction velocity constant ( $g mg^{-1} min^{-1}$ ),  $t$  represents time (min),  $k_2$  is the pseudo-second order reaction velocity constant ( $g mg^{-1} min^{-1}$ ),  $\alpha$  indicates the initial sorption rate constant ( $mg kg^{-1} min^{-1}$ ),  $\beta$  indicates a sorption constant ( $kg mg^{-1}$ ) and  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $k_3$  are related constants for Bangham isotherm (Cui et al. 2015, Berhane et al. 2017, Veneu et al. 2019).

### 2.3. Apparatus

For KP, HAFKP, SAKKP and PAFKP, functional groups of raw kiwi peels and materials prepared depending on the changing agent were detected using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). The X-ray diffraction (XRD) method was applied to investigate the amorphous or crystalline structure of functionalized kiwi peels. The surface morphologies of the materials were investigated and elemental composition of the surfaces was exhibited using scanning electron microscopy-energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDX).

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Characteristics

The functional groups of KP, HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP were determined and the effective groups for dye sorption were analyzed. Figure 1(a), (b), (c) and (d) show the FTIR spectra of KP, HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP, respectively. The broad and distinct peak seen at  $3293 cm^{-1}$  for KP in Figure 1(a) belongs to the vibrations of O-H groups,

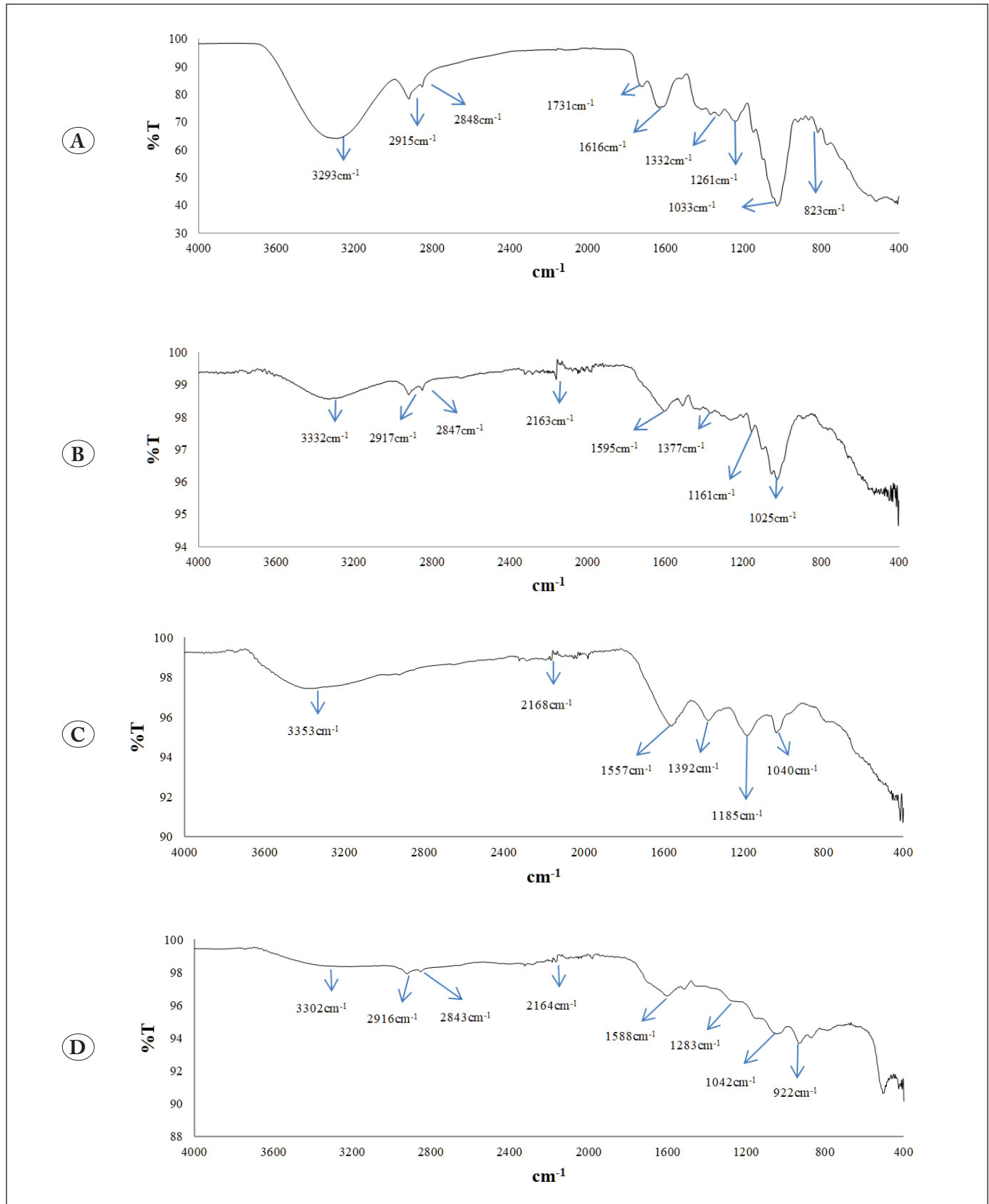
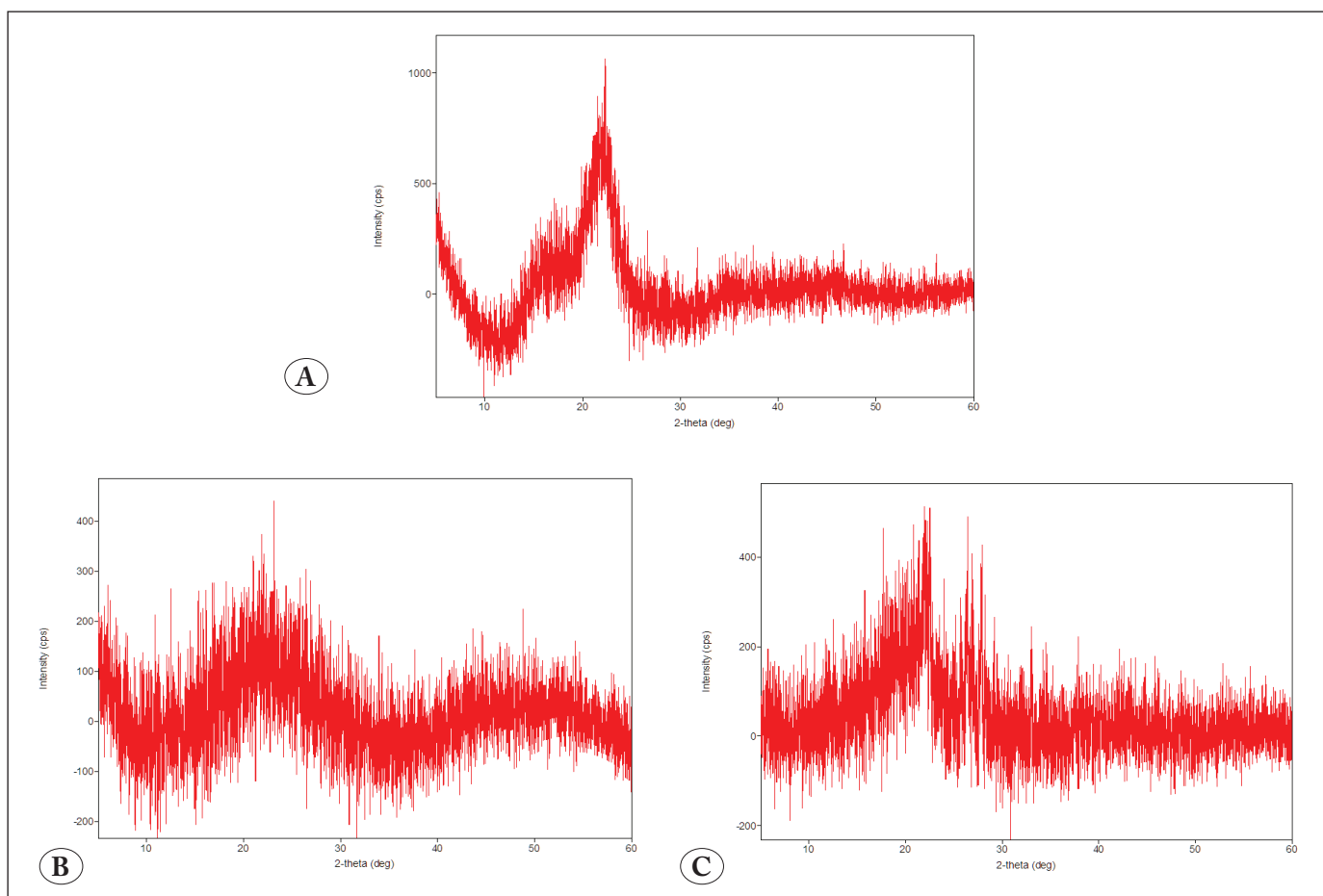


Figure 1. FTIR spectra of (A) KP, (B) HAFKP, (C) SAFKP, and (D) PAFKP.

however, its effect seems to have decreased, which may be due to the thermal treatment along with the functionalization at 3332, 3353 and 3302  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP, respectively (Zbair et al. 2020, Adnan and Moses 2020, Hao et al. 2023, Tirkey and Babu 2024). The peaks that lose their effect for SAFKP and in the range of 2915–2917 and 2843–2848  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for other samples indicate  $\text{CH}_2$  stretching vibrations (Kuracina et al. 2023, Stelescu et al. 2022). CO stretching peaks appeared in the range of 2163–2168  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the materials prepared by functionalization of KP (Yang and Wöll 2017). KP has a C=O band according to 1731 and 1616  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Phothong et al. 2024, B.Aziz et al. 2019). The peaks seen at 1595, 1557 and 1588  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP may belong to C-H, C-N and -COOH vibrations, respectively (Gan and Tan 2001, Dutta et al. 2019, Yamada and Mizuno 2021). While the  $\text{CH}_3$  bending peak was observed at 1377  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for HAFKP, C-O peaks were observed at 1332, 1392 and 1283  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for KP, SAFKP and PAFKP, respectively (Gupta et al. 2017, Jung et al. 2018, Rani et al. 2016, Rajaniverma et al. 2022).

In Figure 1(a), a  $\text{CH}_3$  bending peak was detected at 1261  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in KP (Guo et al. 2012). The peaks at 1185 (Figure 1(c)), 1161 (Figure 1(b)) and 1033 (Figure 1(a))  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  indicate C-O vibrations (Nikafshar et al. 2017, Karabiyik et al. 2023, Bandyopadhyay et al. 2021). The 1042  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  peak in Figure 1(d) may belong to P=O and P-O-P vibrations of PAFKP (Tang et al. 2019, Silva et al. 2021, Wu et al. 2023). For SAFKP, the peak at 1040  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  may belong to the  $-\text{SO}_2$  group (Figure 1(c)) (Wu et al. 2017). The 1025  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  peak in Figure 1(b) indicates C-OH stretching vibrations (Zhang et al. 2022). The 922  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  peak seen for PAFKP may belong to the presence of P (Mustafa et al. 2023). For KP, there is a C-O-C stretching vibration peak at 823  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Abolins et al. 2020). Interactions of different elements may take place in the region below 800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Peng et al. 2023, Isaac et al. 2023, Jin et al. 2023).

XRD analysis was performed to determine whether HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP were amorphous or crystalline. Figure 2(a), (b) and (c) are the XRD diffractograms of HAFKP,

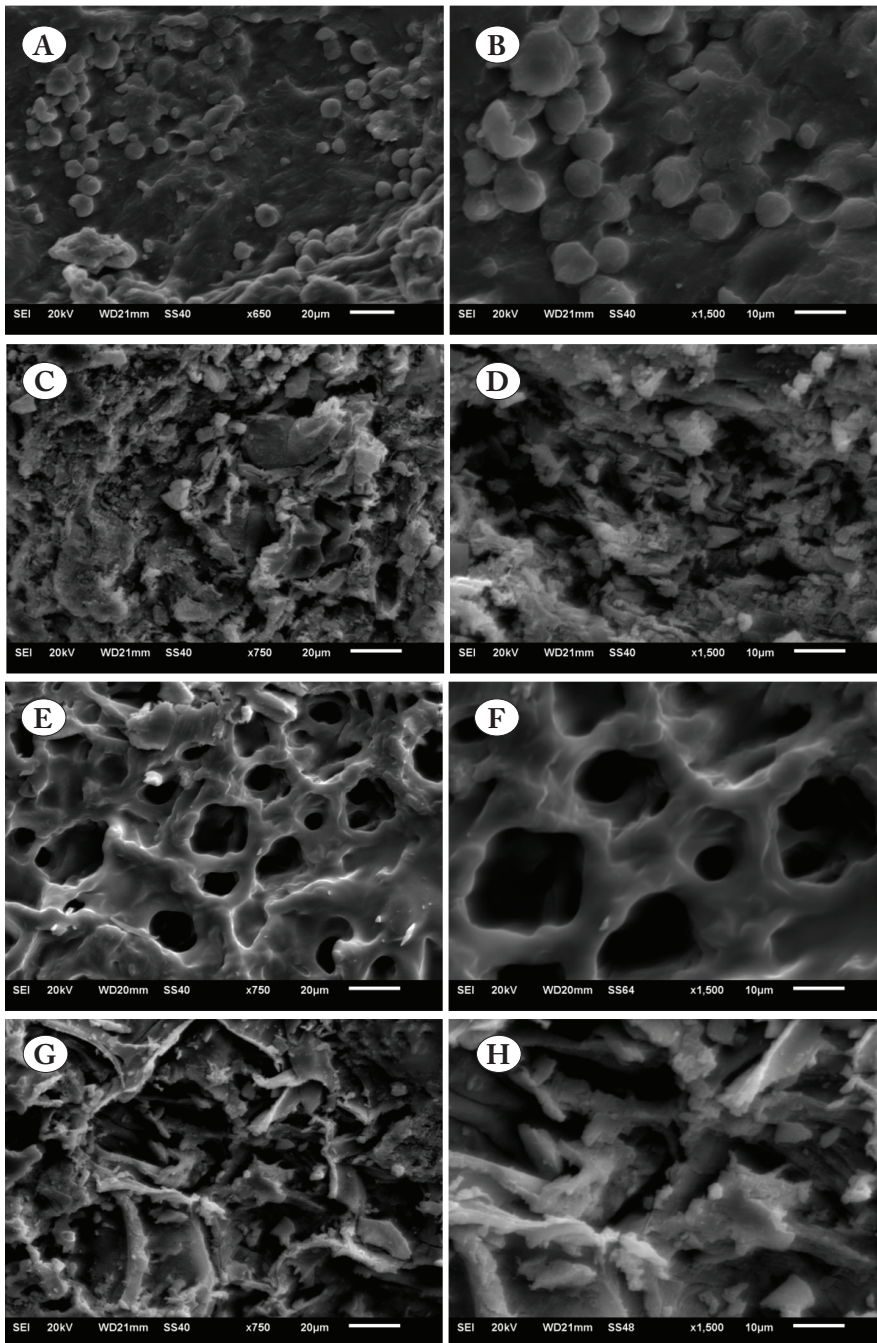


**Figure 2.** X-ray diffractograms of (A) HAFKP, (B) SAFKP, and (C) PAFKP.

SAFKP and PAFKP, respectively. According to Figure 2, peaks at similar  $2\theta$  values were observed for HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP. Similar to the study by Santos et al., HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP exhibited an amorphous structure with a small number of crystal patterns (Santos et al. 2023).

To monitor the changes in the surface structure of KP with functionalization, SEM analyzes were performed for HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP and these analyzes were

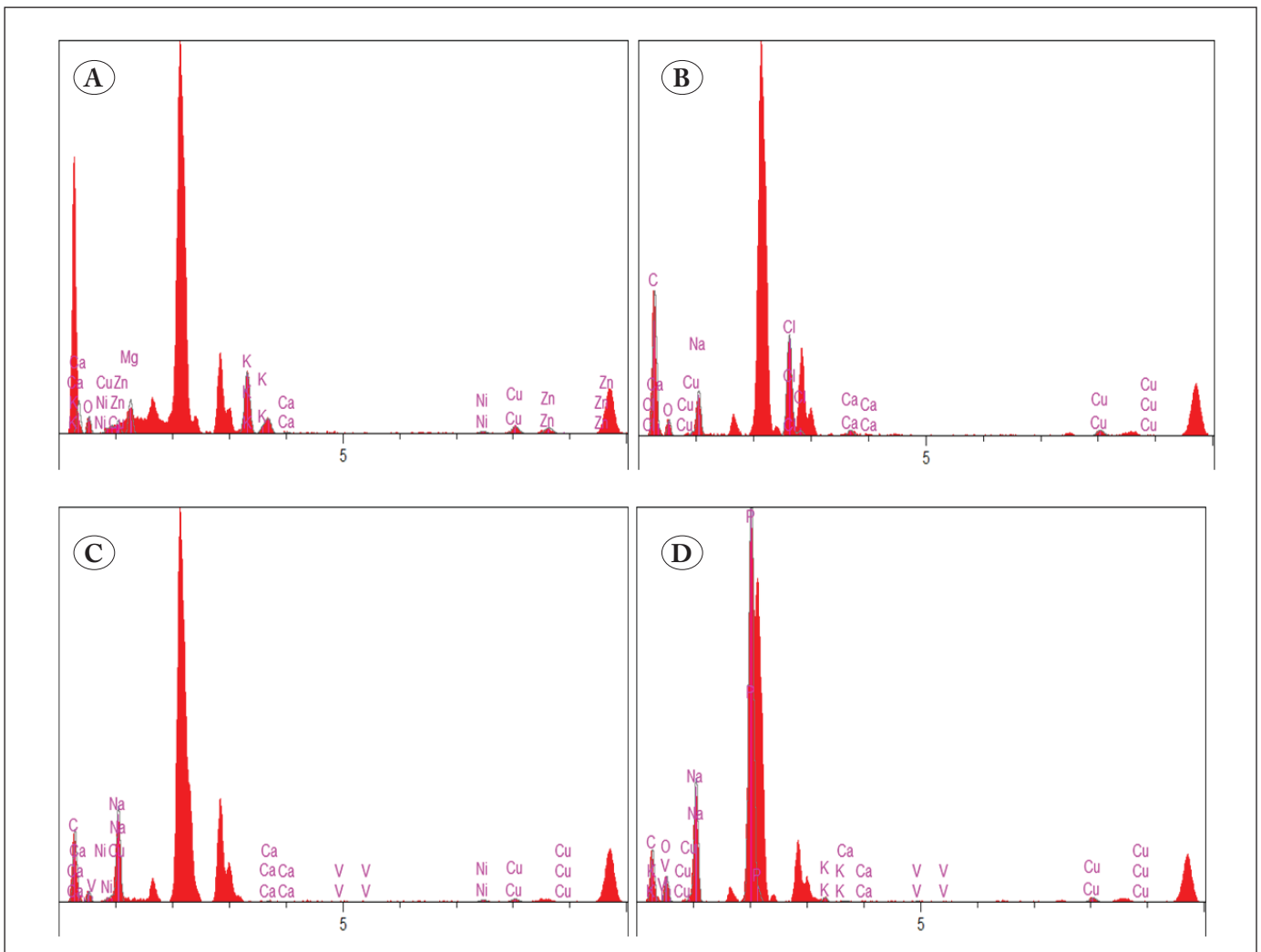
compared with the SEM analyzes of KP. In the SEM images of KP at different magnifications in Figures 3(a) and (b), a non-porous, irregular and lumpy surface structure is seen, as in the study by Gubitosa et al. in which they examined the external and internal structure of the kiwi peel (Gubitosa et al. 2022). In the SEM images of HAFKP in Figure 3(c) and (d), it is clear that HCl causes the formation of irregular and crevice-shaped regions on the surface of KP. Similar to the previous study presented by Xing et al., it



**Figure 3.** SEM images of KP (A and B), HAFKP (C and D), SAFKP (E and F), and PAFKP (G and H).

resulted in a corrugated and layered surface structure on the KP surface with agglomerations with HCl (Xing et al. 2016). In Figure 3(e) and (f) of SAFKP, it is seen that  $H_2SO_4$  causes the formation of a highly porous structure containing open pores of different sizes, as shown by Guo et al (Guo et al. 2023). In Figure 3(g) and (h) of PAFKP, an irregular surface with wide cracks is seen. Accordingly, it is seen that the surface structures change as a result of the functionalization of the raw material with acidic agents. In addition, it is clear in the SEM images in Figure 3 that different acidic agents change the surface structure of the raw material and cause surface structures of different shapes, sizes and distributions. These surface structures show that changes have been created on the surface of the non-porous KP by acidic functionalizations and that these structures of the newly prepared HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP may be suitable areas for sorption.

EDX analyzes were performed to examine the effect of different acids used for functionalization on the elemental composition on the surfaces of the materials. Figure 4(a), (b), (c) and (d) are EDX analyzes for KP, HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP, respectively. According to Figure 4(a), KP is a material with 21.5% O, 21.3% K, 16.1% Mg, 12.9% Zn and 11.6% Cu content by mass. For HCl applied HAFKP, 71.0% C, 11.4% O, 8.5% Cl and 5.5% Na content were determined (Figure 4(b)). SAFKP exhibited 57.9% C, 24.0% Na and 11.4% O content in Figure 4(c). The major elements for PAFKP were 47.1% C, 10.8% O and 10.5% Na (Figure 4(d)). According to EDX results, it was determined that the functionalization of kiwi peels with acidic chemical agents provided C content for HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP.



**Figure 4.** EDX analysis of (A) KP, (B) HAFKP, (C) SAFKP, and (D) PAFKP.

### 3.2. Sorption Analysis

#### 3.2.1. Determination of sorption performance

The sorption performance of HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP over time is given in Figure 5(a), (b) and (c), respectively. For the experiments, the amount of material was determined as

0.1 g, the volume of the dye solution was 50 mL, the initial concentration of the dye solution was 10 mg/L, the pH value of the dye solution itself, the temperature was 24 °C and the shaking speed was 190 rpm. Under these conditions, concentration changes were monitored to determine the equilibrium times of the processes.

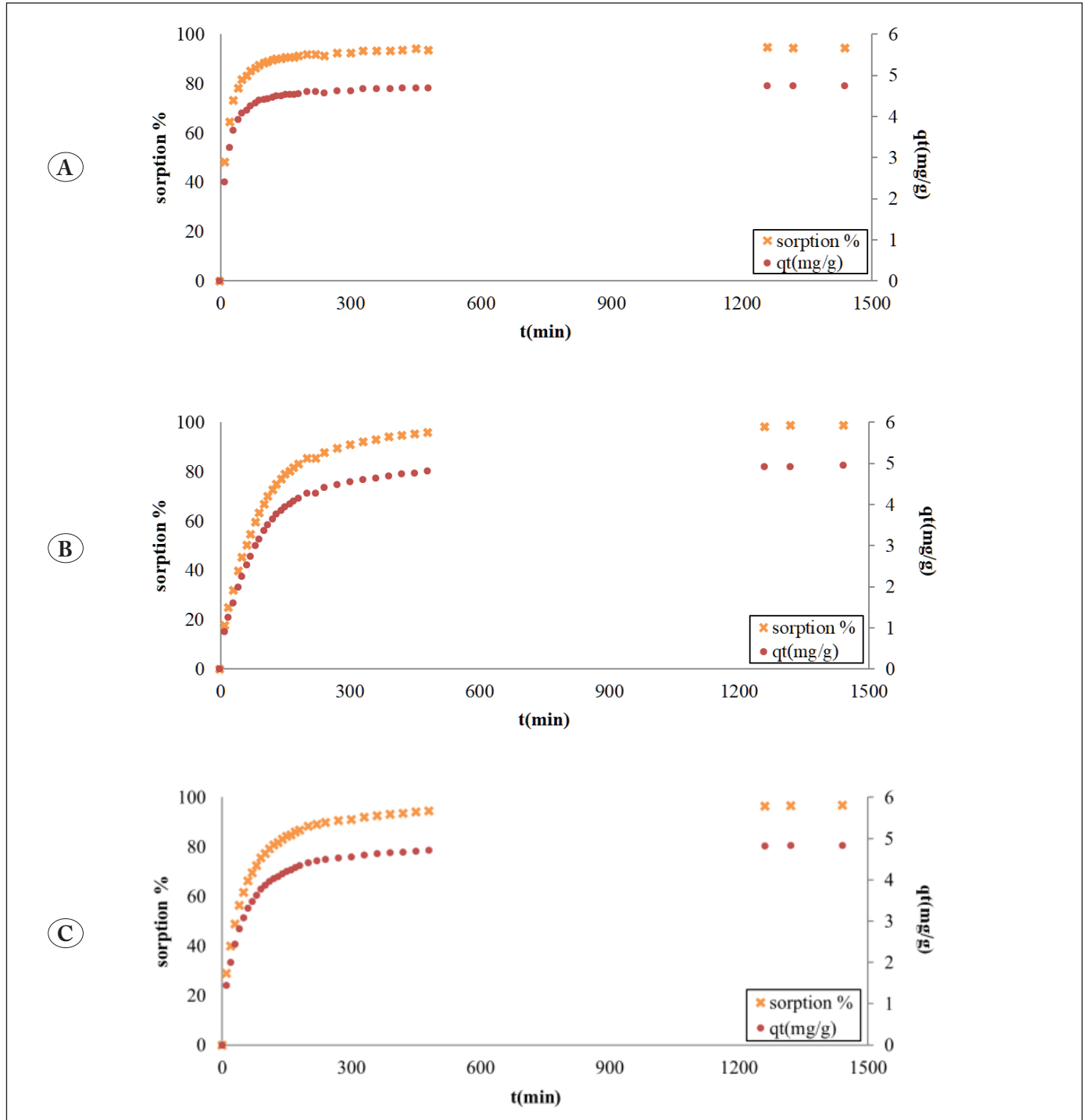


Figure 5. Sorption performance of (A) HAFKP, (b) SAFKP, and (C) PAFKP.



In the graph of HAFKP given in Figure 5(a), it is seen that high sorption is achieved (~50%) as soon as the experiment starts and this situation continues to increase rapidly until approximately 120 min. According to the figure, the increase continues after 120 min, but the rate of increase gradually decreases. A similar situation was observed for capacity values. When concentration changes were continued to be monitored to determine the equilibrium time, it was observed that the sorption performance increased with very small increases after 120 min. It was determined that the sorption performance of the process did not change due to the concentration value remaining constant at the end of 1440 min and therefore 1440 min was determined as the equilibrium time. When the performance of SAFKP was followed over time, Figure 5(b) was obtained. As seen in the figure, process performance increased over time at lower rates than HAFKP. The increasing trend, which started in the first moments of the experiment, continued for 480 min. Although the increases continued after 480 min, they remained at very low rates. 1440 min was chosen as the equilibrium time due to negligible increases at the end of 1440 min. This behavior caused the formation of the curve in Figure 5(b). However, similar to HAFKP, SAFKP also showed high performance at the end of 1440 min. Figure 5(c) shows the performance of PAFKP. PAFKP provided lower percent sorption values than HAFKP but higher than SAFKP in the first moments of the experiment. Although the stable sorption rates, which continued for 360 min, decreased after 360 min, PAFKP continued to perform. Similar to SAFKP,

increases at the end of 1440 min were neglected and 1440 min was determined as the equilibrium time. Similar to HAFKP and SAFKP, PAFKP also exhibited high sorption performance at equilibrium time. At the end of 1440 min, HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP exhibited 94.53, 98.62 and 96.76% sorption and 4.73, 4.93 and 4.84 mg/g capacity, respectively. Although the sorption percentage and capacity values are very close to each other, the highest values were obtained for SAFKP.

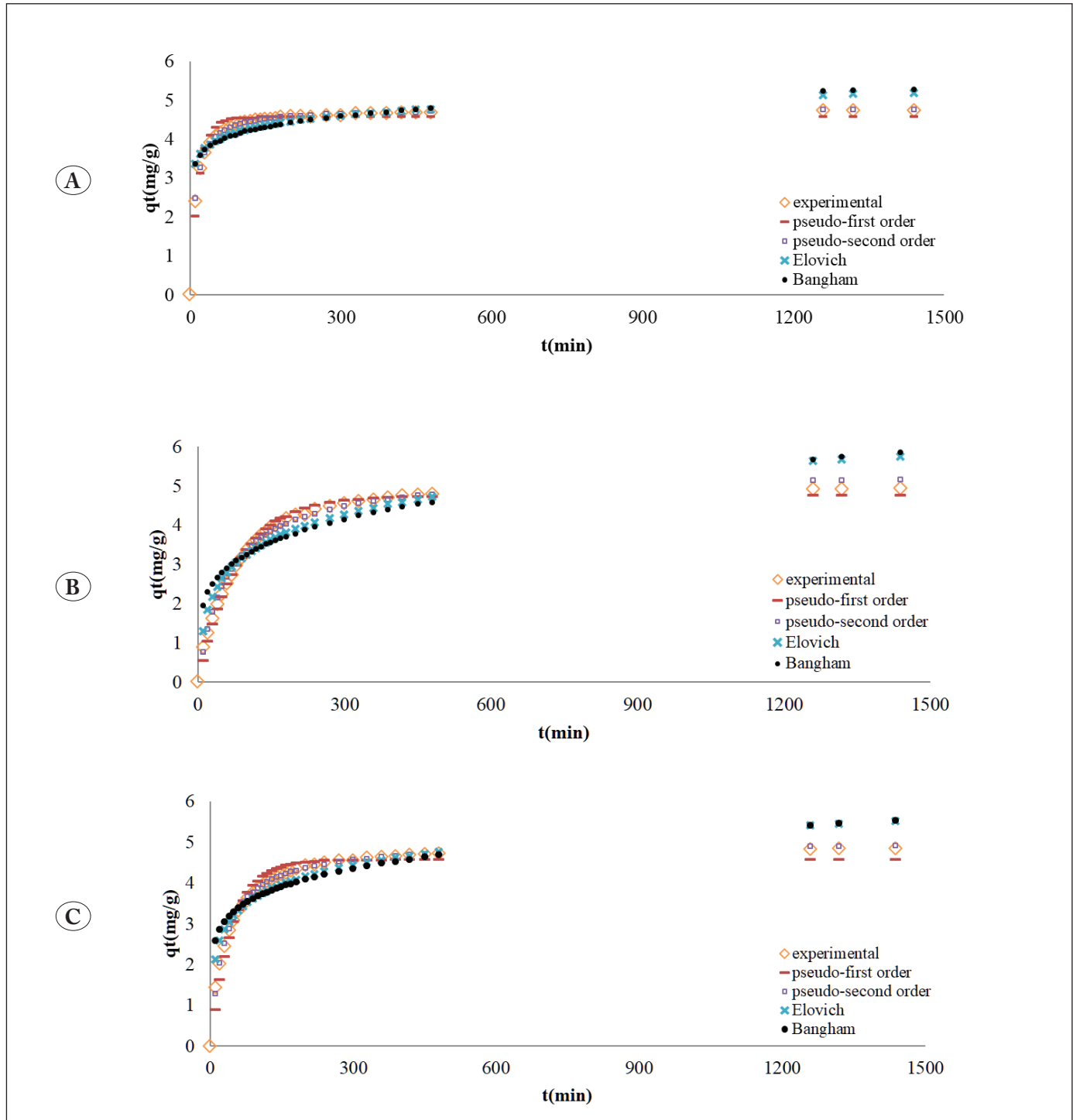
### 3.2.2. Application of kinetic models to sorption

Kinetic studies were conducted to explain the performance of HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP. Kinetic studies for HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP using pseudo-first order, pseudo-second order, Elovich and Bangham models are plotted in Figure 6(a), (b) and (c), respectively.

The variables of the kinetic models are given in Table 1. According to the magnitude of the correlation coefficients ( $R^2$ ) of the kinetic models in Table 1, pseudo-second order>pseudo-first order>Elovich>Bangham order was determined for HAFKP. For SAFKP,  $R^2$  values increased in the order pseudo-first order>pseudo-second order>Elovich>Bangham. According to  $R^2$  values, PAFKP showed a fit as pseudo-second order>pseudo-first order>Elovich>Bangham. The largest  $R^2$  value for HAFKP and PAFKP was determined for the pseudo-second order kinetic model. Supporting this situation, the experimental  $q_e$  values were found to be close to the  $q_e$  values of the pseudo-second order

**Table 1.** Variables of kinetic models.

Model	Parameter	HAFKP	SAFKP	PAFKP
	experimental $q_e$	4.73	4.93	4.84
PFO	$q_e$	4.55	4.74	4.55
	$k_1$	0.058	0.012	0.022
	$R^2$	0.9129	0.9901	0.9481
PSO	$q_e$	4.79	5.38	5.00
	$k_2$	11.75	2.56	4.24
	$R^2$	0.9976	0.9891	0.9966
Elovich	$\alpha$	349.19	0.28	1.41
	$\beta$	2.73	1.053	1.45
	$R^2$	0.7381	0.8922	0.8684
Bangham	$\alpha B$	0.091	0.22	0.15
	$k_3$	2.73	1.18	1.80
	$R^2$	0.6651	0.7898	0.7793



**Figure 6.** Experimental and kinetic model graphs of (A) HAFKP, (B) SAFKP and (C) PAFKP.

kinetic model for HAFKP and PAFKP. This model explains that chemisorption is the rate-determining step (Lammini et al. 2022). The fact that the processes for HAFKP and PAFKP are chemical sorption indicates that a chemical reaction occurs between the dye molecules and HAFKP and

PAFKP, thus a strong bonding occurs through covalent bonds (Sasamoto et al. 2022). For SAFKP, although high and close  $R^2$  values were obtained for both the pseudo-first order and pseudo-second order models, the  $R^2$  value of the pseudo-first order was found to be higher with a very slight

difference. In addition, when the  $q_e$  values of the experimental and models are compared, the experimental  $q_e$  value for SAFKP was found to be closer to the  $q_e$  value for pseudo-first order. Therefore, it was determined that SAFKP and pseudo-first order kinetic model are compatible. Physical sorption is effective in processes suitable for the pseudo-first order kinetic model (Yin et al. 2023). Therefore, in the process involving SAFKP, sorption occurs physically. Physical sorption refers to processes that involve a reversible interaction through weak van der Waals forces (Atif et al. 2022). Therefore, it can be explained that SAFKP has a physical interaction with dye molecules. The Elovich model refers to the heterogeneous material surface when it comes to chemical sorption (Dinh et al. 2023). Bangham model describes diffusion into pores (Rojas et al. 2019). According to  $R^2$  values, the processes carried out with HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP were not found to be compatible with the Elovich and Bangham model.

#### 4. Conclusion

In this study, kiwi fruit peels were functionalized with different acidic agents and the properties of the resulting materials were determined. FTIR analysis showed that different acidic agents impart different functional groups to kiwi peel. The amorphous structure of the functionalized materials was revealed by XRD analysis. SEM analysis revealed that KP, which has a non-porous and non-homogeneous surface, exhibited open, large and circular pores when functionalized with  $H_2SO_4$ , while pores in the form of slits were formed for HAFKP and PAFKP. EDX analysis detected that acidic agents increase the C content in the elemental composition of the materials. Additionally, sorption performances of HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP were investigated. HAFKP, SAFKP and PAFKP exhibited crystal violet sorption performance of 94.53, 98.62 and 96.76%, respectively. In the kinetic analyzes applied for the processes, it was determined that the  $R^2$  and  $q_e$  values of the processes in which HAFKP and PAFKP were used were compatible with the pseudo-second order kinetic model, and therefore, a strong bonding occurred between HAFKP and PAFKP and the dye molecules through covalent bonds. On the other hand, SAFKP was suitable for the pseudo-first order kinetic model and it was explained that sorption occurred with weaker binding.

#### 5. Acknowledgements

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#### Conflict of Interest

The author declares that no conflict of interest.

#### 6. References

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