

### Supplementary content

Fig. S1. Graphical presentation of central composite design with 3 factors.

Fig. S2. Fine structure of surface of lemon citrus peels carbon active

Fig. S3. Surface potential of lemon citrus powder carbon active

Fig. S4. Ratio-derivative spectra for (a) EB (b) RB (dye concentration = 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 mg/l, the other dye concentration = 5 mg/l in all cases.

Fig. S5. Isotherms of single and binary dyes (A) Langmuir adsorption isotherm (B) Dubinine-Radushkovich adsorption isotherm. Temperature 25<sup>o</sup> C, pH =4, adsorbent dose 0.3 g/l.

Fig. S6. Dye adsorption rate in single and binary dyes fitted to pseudo-second order kinetic equation. Initial dye concentration 20 mg/l, temperature 25<sup>o</sup> C, pH =4, adsorbent dose 0.3 g/l.

**Table S1.** Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for removal of EB and RB dyes

**Table S2 :** kinetic parameter for dye adsorption, T = 25<sup>o</sup>c , pH = 4 , adsorbent = 0.3 g/l.

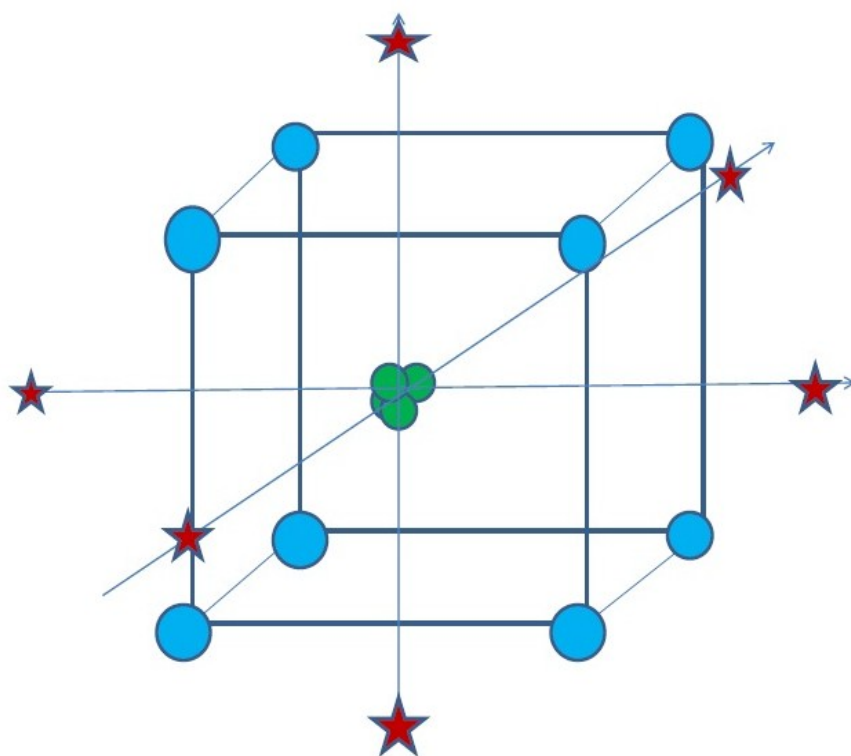


Fig. S1. Graphical presentation of central composite design with 3 factors

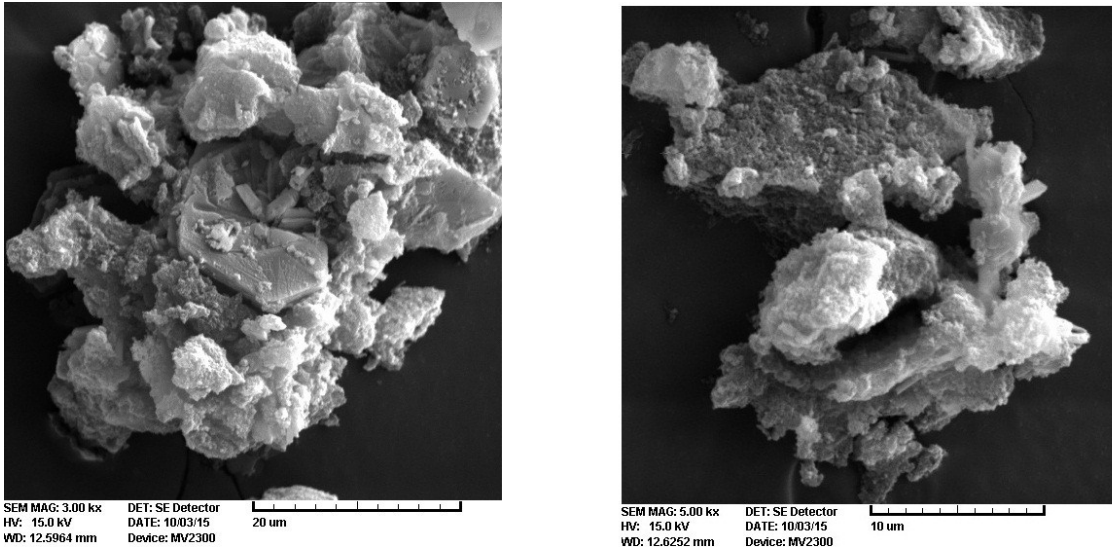


Fig.S2. Fine structure of surface of lemon citrus peels carbon active

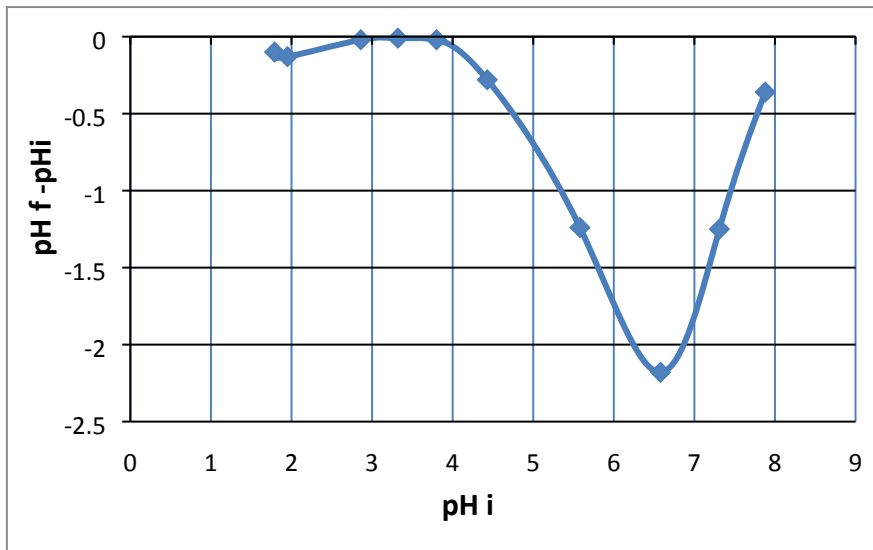
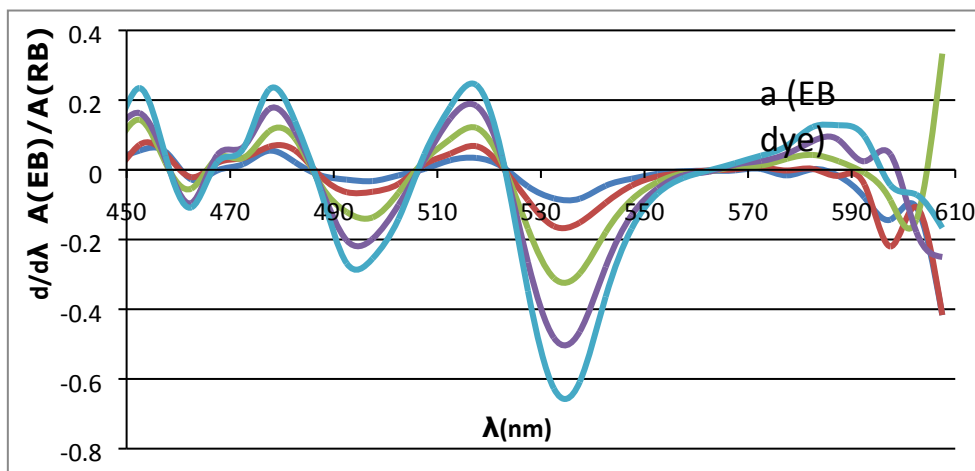


Fig.S3. Surface potential of lemon citrus powder carbon active



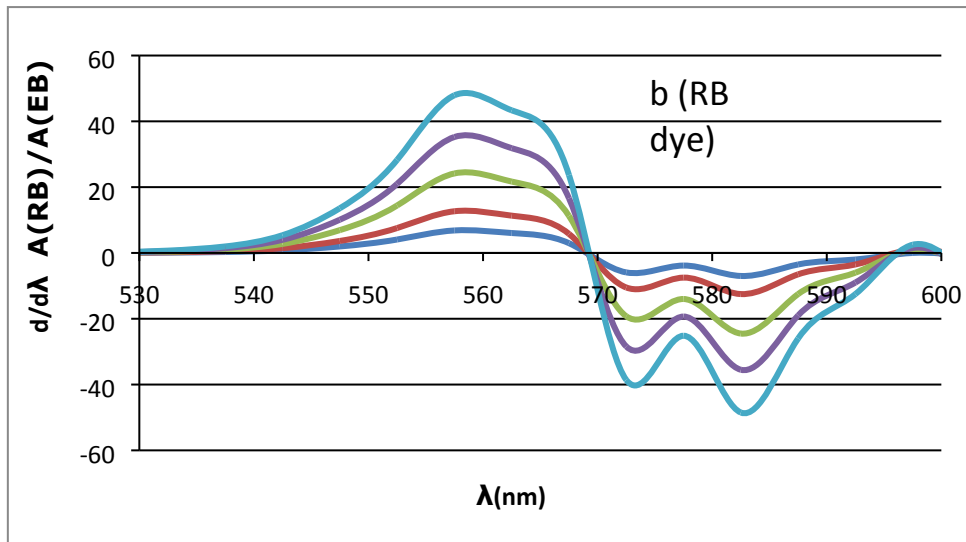
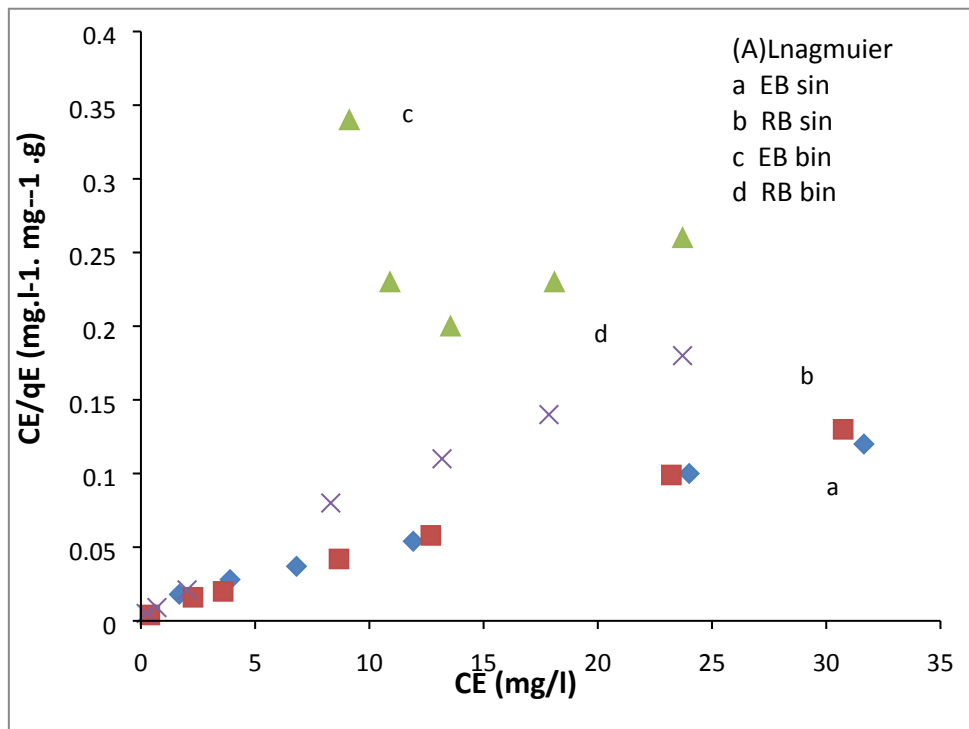


Fig. S4. Ratio-derivative spectra for (a) EB (b) RB (dye concentration = 1, 2, 4, 6, and 8 mg/l, the other dye concentration = 5 mg/l in all cases.



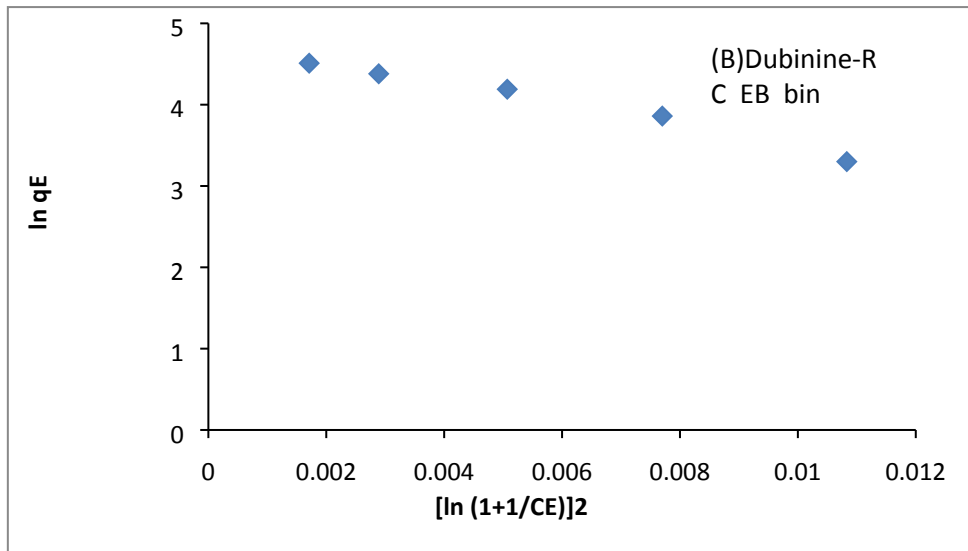


Fig. S5. Isotherms of single and binary dyes (A) Langmuir adsorption isotherm (B) Dubinin-Radushkovich adsorption isotherm. Temperature 25<sup>0</sup> C, pH =4, adsorbent dose 0.3 g/l.

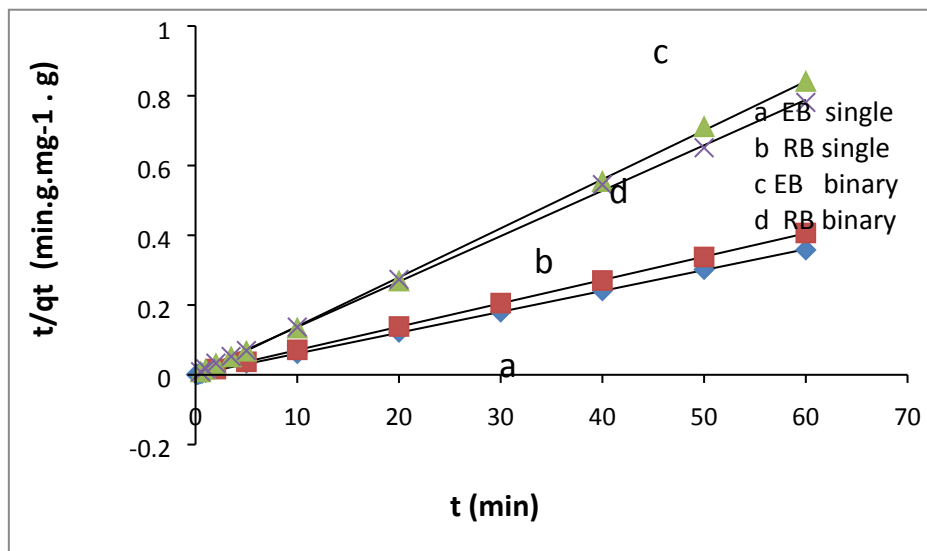


Fig. S6. Dye adsorption rate in single and binary dyes fitted to pseudo-second order kinetic equation. Initial dye concentration 20 mg/l , temperature 25<sup>0</sup> C, pH =4, adsorbent dose 0.3 g/l.

**Table S1.** Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for removal of EB and RB dyes

Source of variation	EB					RB				
	SS	DF	MS	F-Value	P- value	SS	DF	MS	F-Value	P- value
model	1753	9	194.8	52.16	<0.0001	<b>102.1</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11.34</b>	<b>25.78</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
X <sub>1</sub>	787.4	1	787.4	210.8	<0.0001	<b>0.0190</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.0190</b>	<b>0.043</b>	<b>0.8407</b>
X <sub>2</sub>	379.6	1	379.6	101.6	<0.0001	<b>4.69</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.690</b>	<b>10.65</b>	<b>0.0085</b>
X <sub>3</sub>	40.99	1	40.99	10.98	0.0078	<b>29.23</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29.23</b>	<b>66.44</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>2</sub>	318.3	1	318.3	85.23	<0.0001	<b>4.48</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4.48</b>	<b>10.19</b>	<b>0.0096</b>
X <sub>1</sub> X <sub>3</sub>	48.61	1	48.61	13.02	0.0048	<b>29.84</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>29.84</b>	<b>67.82</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
X <sub>2</sub> X <sub>3</sub>	62.61	1	62.61	16.76	0.0022	<b>7.20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>16.36</b>	<b>0.0023</b>
X <sub>1</sub> <sup>2</sup>	84.62	1	84.62	22.66	0.0008	<b>2.04</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2.04</b>	<b>4.64</b>	<b>0.0567</b>
X <sub>2</sub> <sup>2</sup>	41.75	1	41.75	11.18	0.0074	<b>3.09</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>7.03</b>	<b>0.0243</b>
X <sub>3</sub> <sup>2</sup>	1.930	1	1.930	0.5200	0.4891	<b>20.83</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20.83</b>	<b>47.34</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>
Residual	37.34	10	3.734	-	-	<b>4.400</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.4400</b>	-	-
lack of fitness	30.38	5	6.08	4.36	0.0659	<b>2.39</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.480</b>	<b>1.19</b>	<b>0.4261</b>
Pure error	6.970	5	1.390			<b>2.01</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.400</b>		
Total	1790	19				<b>106.49</b>	<b>19</b>			

**Table S2** : kinetic parameter for dye adsorption, T = 25 °c , pH = 4 , adsorbent = 0.3 g/l.

Equation	Single solution		Binary solution	
	Erythrosin B	Rhodamine B	Erythrosine B	Rhodamine B
<b>Pesudo first order</b>				
$R^2$	0.95	0.96	0.88	0.87
$Ln(q_e - q_t) = Ln q_e - K_1 t$				
$K_1(\text{min}^{-1})$	2.17	0.08	0.29	0.61
Plot the values of $Ln(q_e - q_t)$ against $t$ give a linear relationship that $q_e$ and $K_1$ can be determined.				
$q_{\text{exp}}(\text{mg g}^{-1})$	149.25	148.16	73.38	72.97
$q_{\text{calc}}(\text{mg g}^{-1})$	19.87	21.89	14.00	29.76
<b>Pesudo second order</b>				
$R^2$	0.999	1.000	0.999	0.999
$t/q_t = 1/k_2 q_e^2 + t/q_e$				
$K_2(\text{g mg}^{-1} \text{min}^{-1})$	0.04	0.04	0.20	0.09
Plot the values of $t/q_t$ against $t$ give a linear relationship with $k_2$ and $q_e$ can be determined.				
$q_{\text{exp}}(\text{mg g}^{-1})$	149.25	148.16	73.38	72.97
$q_{\text{calc}}(\text{mg g}^{-1})$	166.67	166.67	71.43	76.92