Supplementary material for

## Efficient and selective adsorption of Au(III), Pt(IV), Pd(II) by radiation-crosslinked poly(ionic liquid) gel

Fulai Hao<sup>1,2</sup>, Xinying Miao<sup>3</sup>, Manman Zhang<sup>3</sup>, Zhen Dong<sup>3</sup>, Maolin Zhai<sup>4</sup>, Yanbai Shen<sup>1</sup>, Jianhua Zu<sup>5</sup>, Jun Yang<sup>3\*</sup>, Long Zhao<sup>3\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Resources and Civil Engineering, Northeastern University, Shenyang 110819, China.

<sup>2</sup> Changchun Gold Research Institute, China National Gold Group Co. Ltd, Changchun 130000, China

<sup>3</sup> State Key Laboratory of Advanced Electromagnetic Engineering and Technology, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430074, China.

<sup>4</sup> Beijing National Laboratory for Molecular Sciences, Radiochemistry and Radiation Chemistry Key Laboratory of Fundamental Science, Key Laboratory of Polymer Chemistry and Physics of the Ministry of Education, College of Chemistry and Molecular Engineering, Peking University, Beijing 100871, China.

<sup>5</sup> School of Nuclear Science and Engineering, Shanghai jiaotong University, Shanghai 200240, China.

\*Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: jyang@hust.edu.cn (Jun Yang); zhaolong@hust.edu.cn (Long Zhao).

Corresponding author at: State Key Laboratory of Advanced Electromagnetic Engineering and Technology, School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan 430074, China

## S1. Adsorption capacity and efficiency

The following Eq. (S1) and Eq. (S2) were used to calculate the adsorption capacity  $(Q_e, mg/g)$  and efficiency (E, %):

$$Q_e = \frac{(C_0 - C_e) \times V}{m} \tag{S1}$$

$$E (\%) = \frac{(C_0 - C_e)}{C_0} \times 100$$
 (S2)

Where  $C_0 (mg/L)$  and  $C_e (mg/L)$  were the concentrations of the metal ions before and after adsorption, respectively; V (L) was the volume of the absorbed solution; m (g) was the mass of the adsorbents. All results were obtained from two parallel data.

## S2. Kinetic Model Fitting

The pseudo-first-order and pseudo-second-order kinetic models shown in Eq. (S3) and (S4) were used to fit the kinetic data:

Pseudo-first-order:

$$Q_t = Q_e \times (1 - e^{-k_t t}) \tag{S3}$$

Pseudo-second-order:

$$\frac{t}{Q_t} = \frac{1}{k_2 Q_e^2} + \frac{t}{Q_e}$$
(S4)

Where  $k_1 \text{ (min}^{-1)}$  and  $k_2 \text{ (mg} \cdot \text{g}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1)}$  were the rate constants of the pseudo-firstorder and pseudo-second-order kinetic models, respectively.  $Q_t \text{ (mg/g)}$  was the corresponding adsorption capacity of Au(III) or Pt(IV) or Pd(II) at a certain time, and  $Q_e \text{ (mg/g)}$  was the theoretical equilibrium adsorption capacity of the three metal ions.

## S3. Isotherm Model Fitting

The isotherms data was fitted by Langmuir and Freundlich isotherm models as shown in the following equations (Eq. (S5) and (S6)):

Langmuir:

$$\frac{C_e}{Q_e} = \frac{C_e}{Q_{max}} + \frac{1}{Q_{max}K_L}$$
(S5)

Freundlich:

$$\log Q_e = \log \mathrm{K_f} + \frac{1}{n} \log C_e \tag{S6}$$

Where  $C_e (mg/L)$  was the concentration of metal ions in the solution after adsorption equilibrium, and  $Q_e (mg/g)$  was the corresponding adsorption capacity at adsorption equilibrium.  $Q_{max} (mg/g)$  represented the theoretical maximum adsorption capacity obtained by Langmuir model fitting.  $K_L$ ,  $K_f$ , and n were constants of adsorption properties.

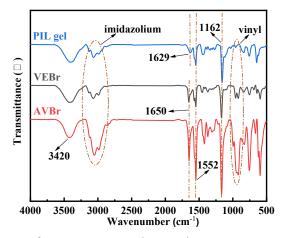


Fig. S1 FTIR spectra of VEBr, AVBr, and PIL gel

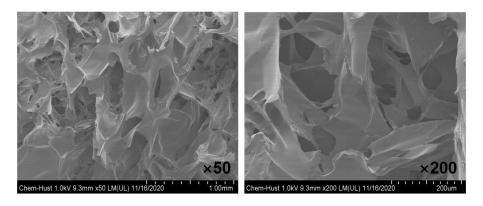


Fig. S2 SEM images of the freeze-dried PIL gel

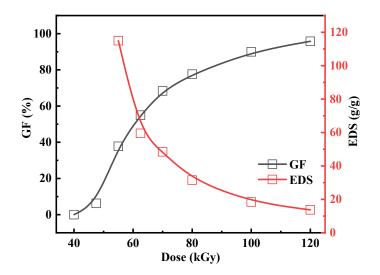


Fig.S3 GF and EDS of PIL gel

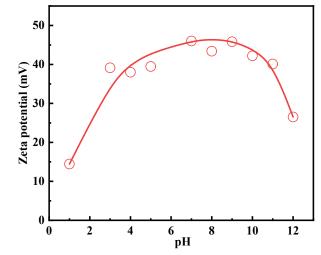


Fig. S4 zeta potential of PIL gel

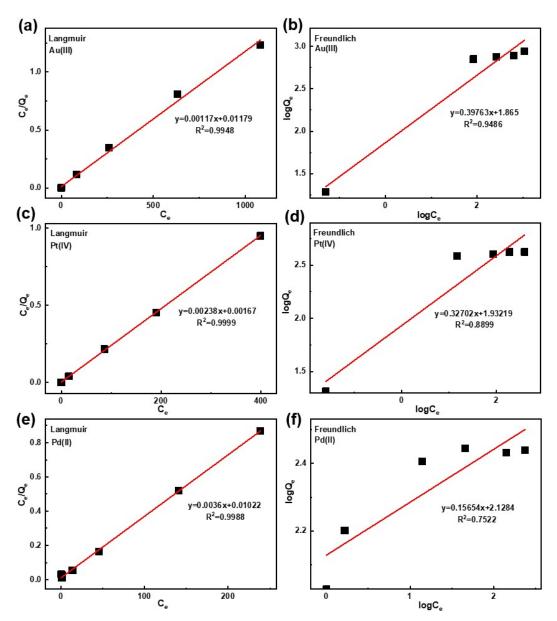


Fig. S5 Langmuir and Freundlich isotherm models fitting curves

Element	Feed (mg/L)	Raffinate (mg/L)
Au	0.386	0.123
Al	351.855	391.2753
Ca	261.9151	287.8875
Fe	114.6942	123.0444
Mg	158.5719	182.817
Mn	13.4882	14.9922
Ni	0.1206	0.1458
Zn	1.2318	1.3554

 Table S1 The composition of slag leaching solution before and after adsorption