







When working in partnership with the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto, we used the Project-based learning (PBL) methodology to develop a project to remove heavy metal ions from contaminated water, through magnetic separation.













#### Introduction





Materials and methods



Results and discussions



Bibliographic references







# Introduction

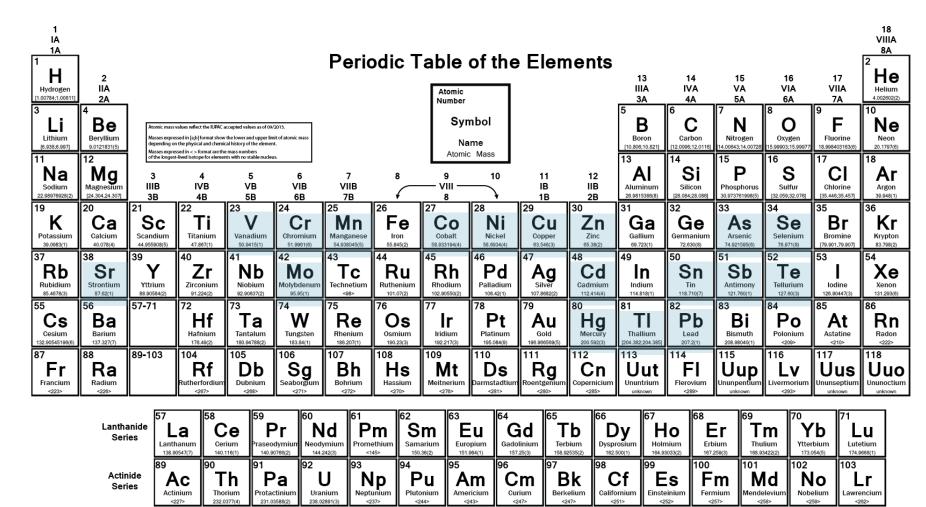


Figure 1: Heavy metals in the periodic table











Heavy metals	Recommended Daily Intakes (adult) (per day)	
	Woman	Man
Vanadium (V)	0,010*	
Chromium (Cr)	0,025*	
Molybdenum (Mo)	0,050 - 0,4*	
Selenium (Se)	0,060**	0,075**
Zinc (Zn)	7,0 **	9,5**
Manganese (Mn)	4,6*	
Copper (Cu)	1,2**	

<sup>\* -</sup> The intake is not correctly defined

**Table 1:** Recommended daily intakes of heavy metals





Heavy metals	Recommended Daily Intakes (adult) (per day)
Strontium (Sr)	-
Nickel (Ni)	-
Cobalt (Co)	-
Cadmium (Cd)	-
Mercury (Hg)	-
Thallium (Tl)	-
Lead (Pb)	-
Tin (Sn)	-
Antimony (Sb)	-
Tellurium (Te)	-
Arsenic (As)	-

<sup>\*\* -</sup> depends on the person's age

Biosorption

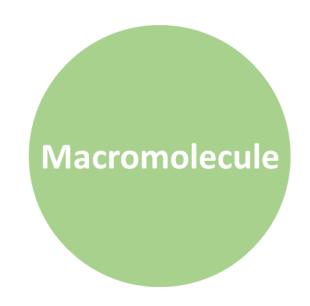
Chemical precipitation

Adsorption





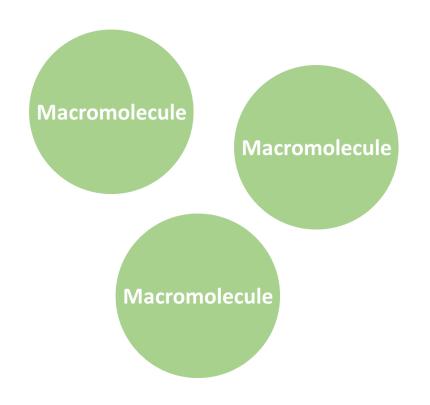


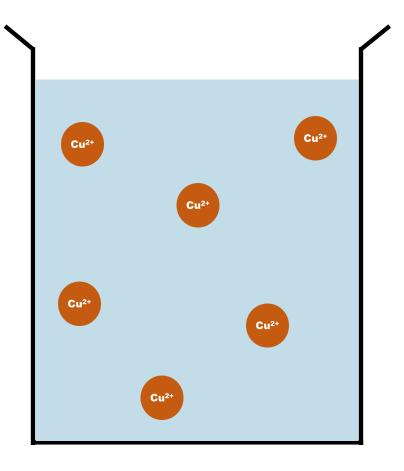








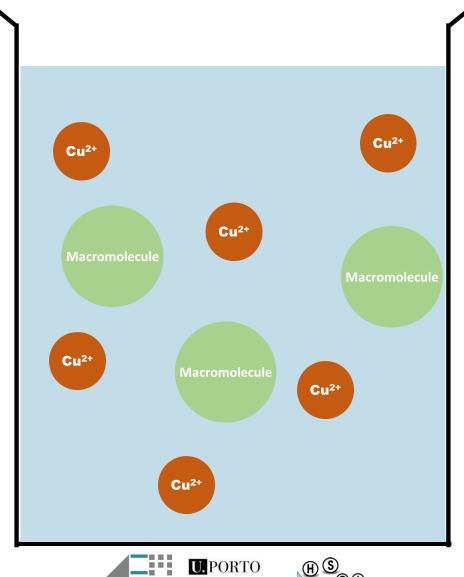








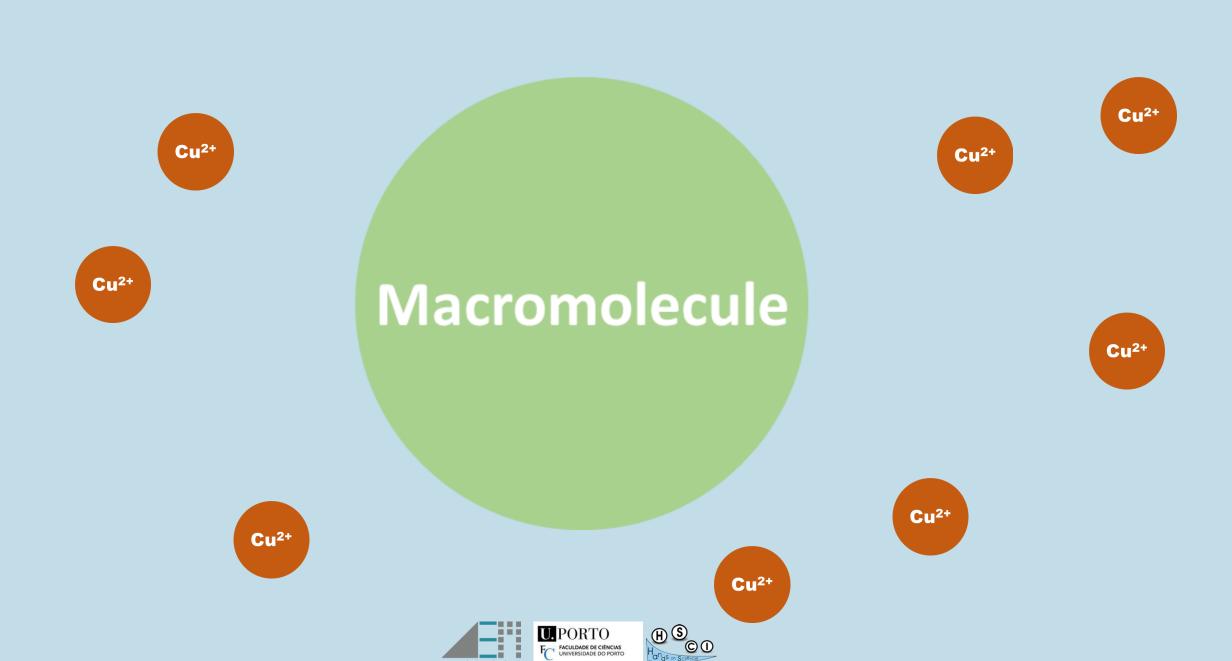


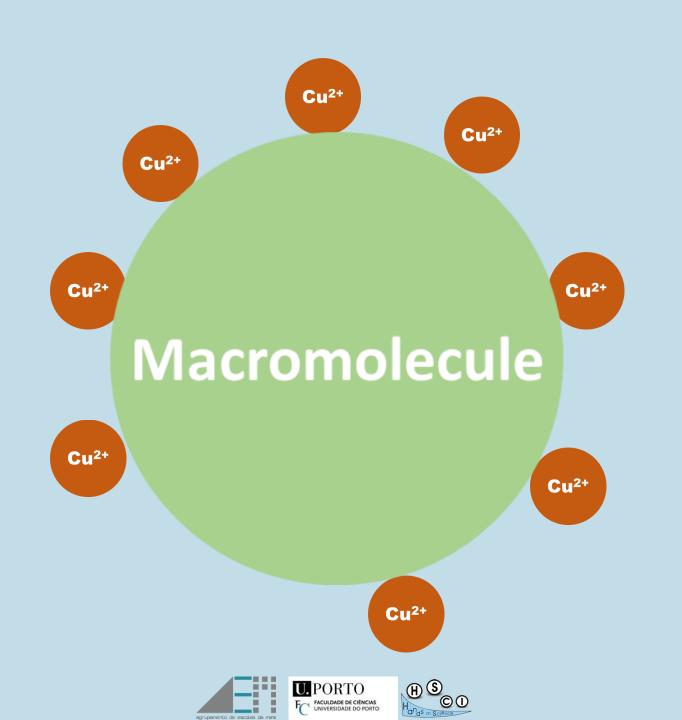






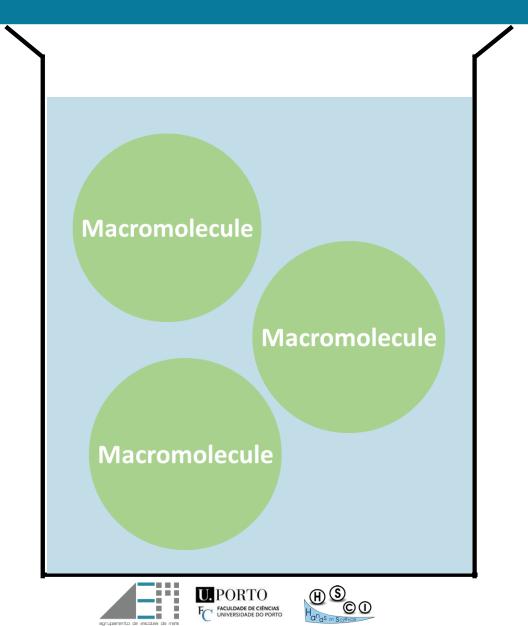


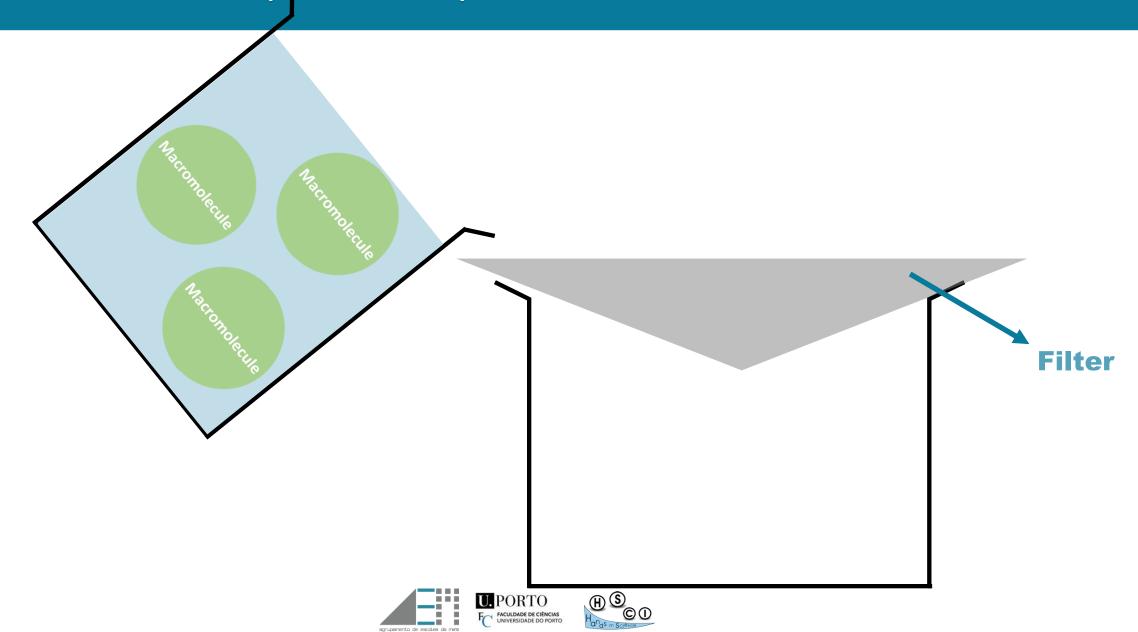


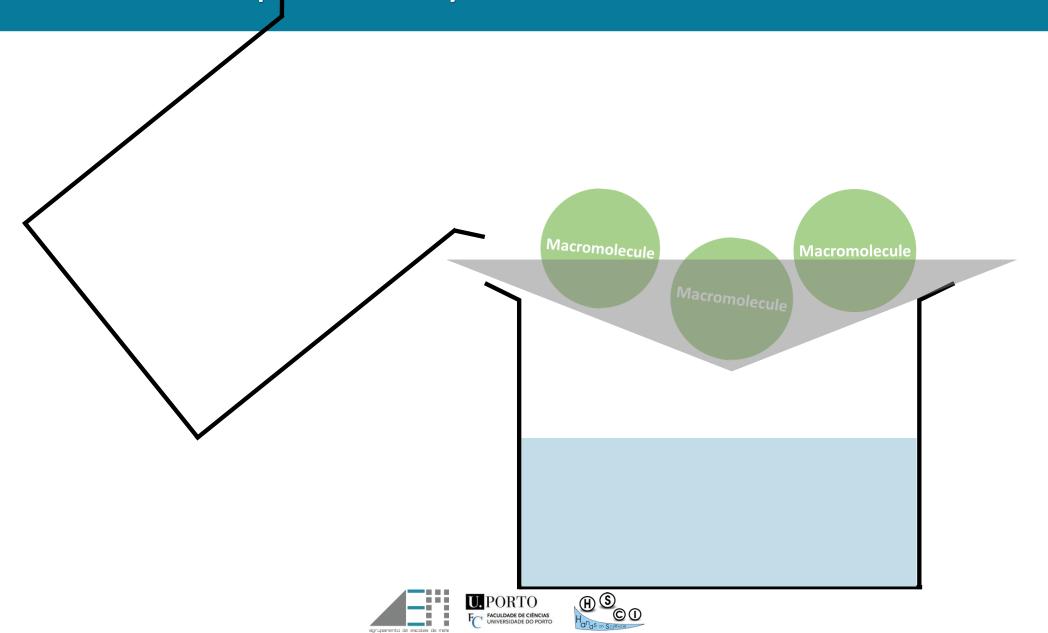


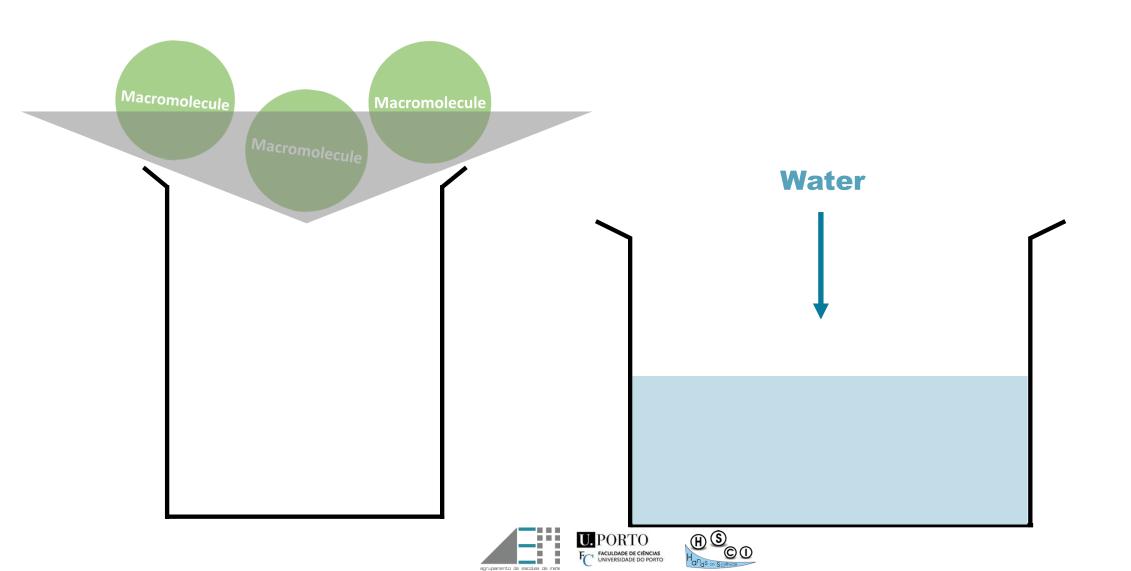
# Macromolecule











Biosorption

Chemical precipitation

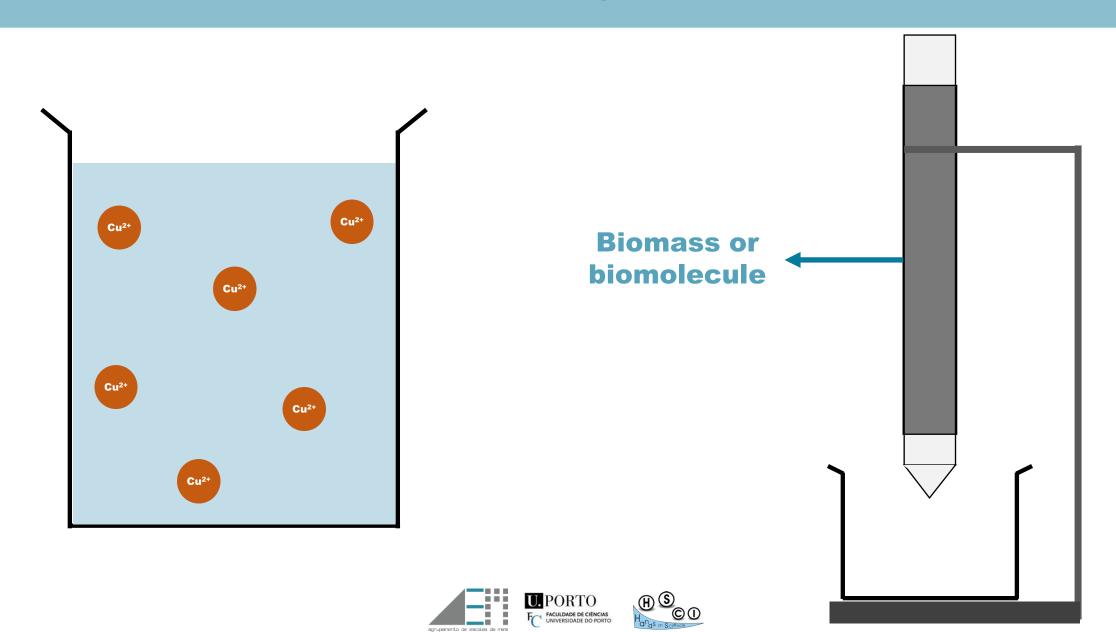
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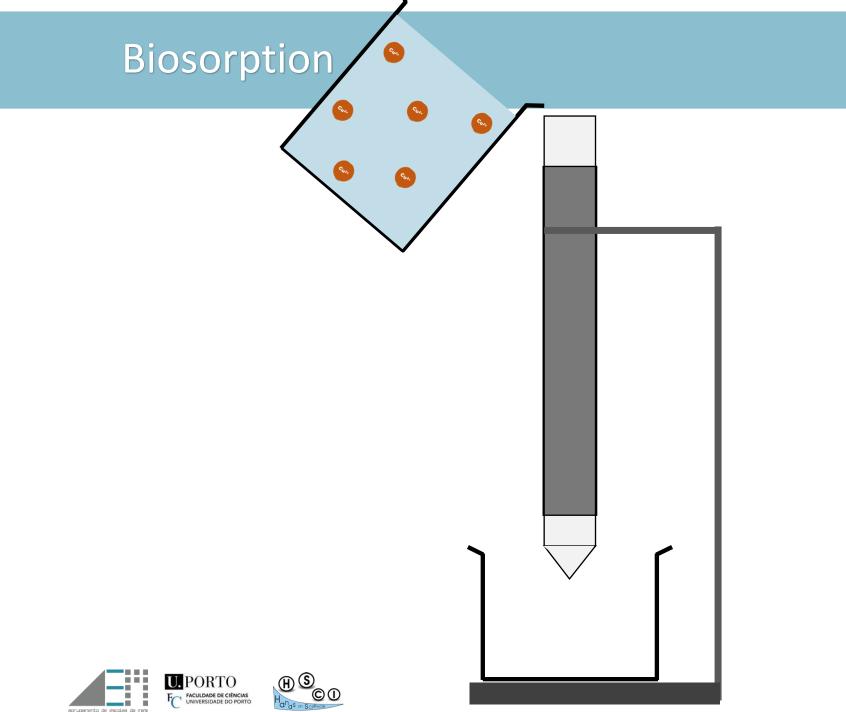






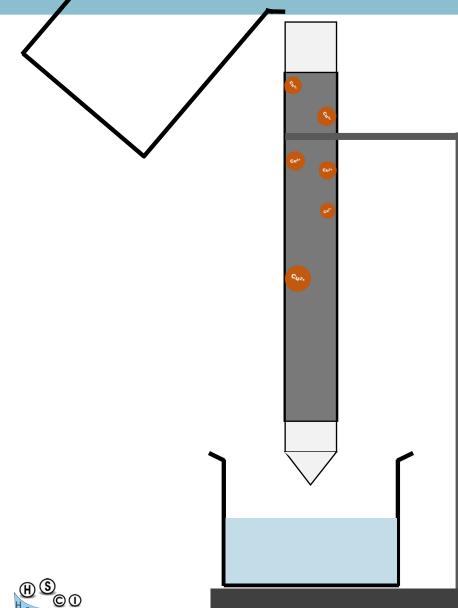
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### Biosorption/

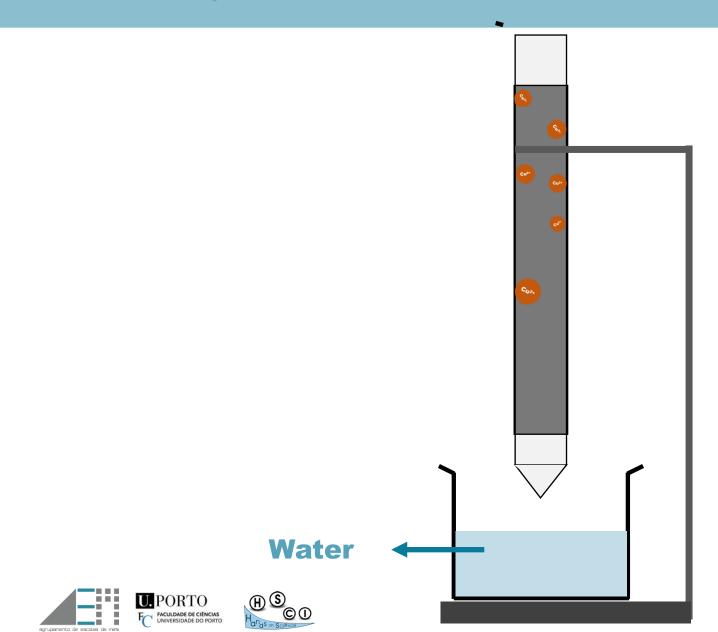








#### Biosorption



Biosorption

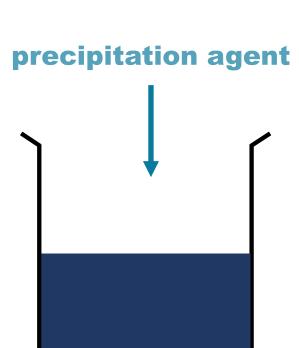
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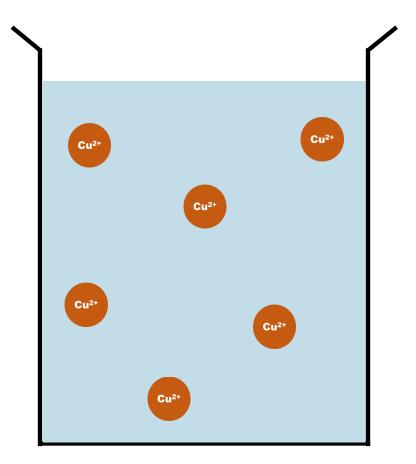
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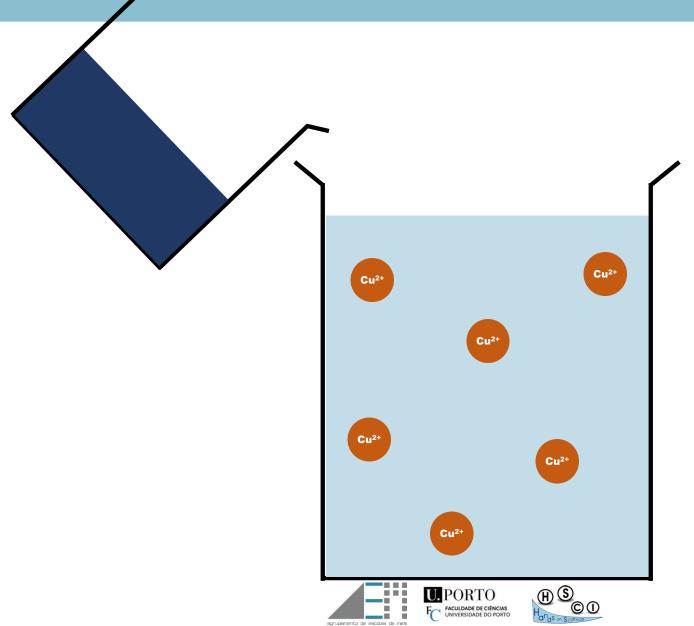


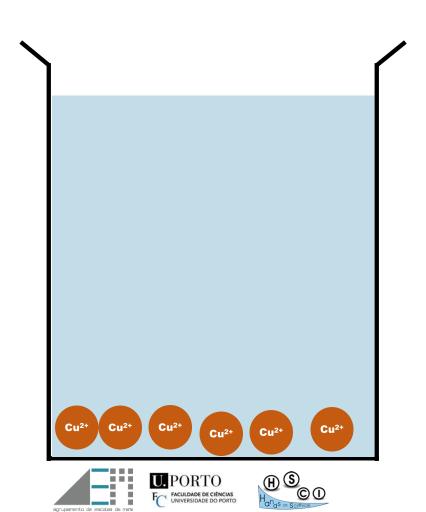


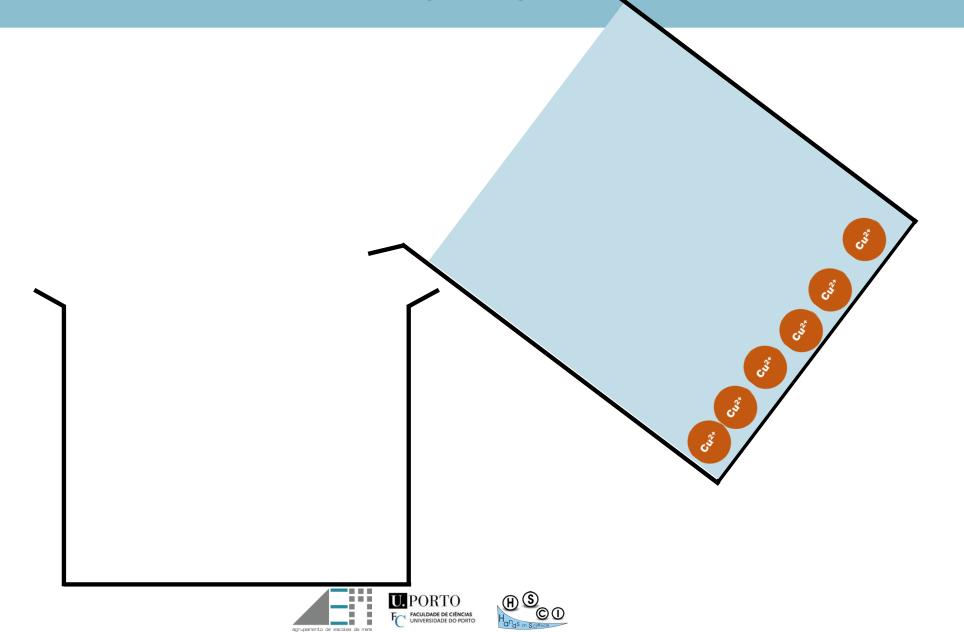


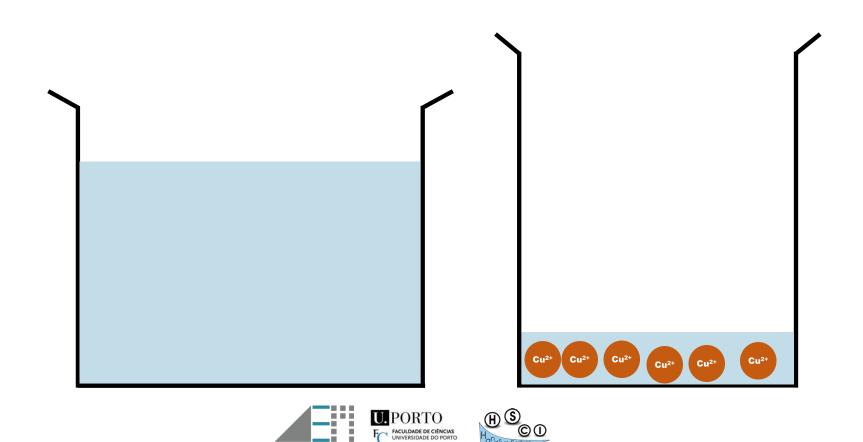












Biosorption

Separation by filtration membrane

Chemical precipitation

Adsorption







#### Adsorption

#### **Absorption**

Absorption is a condition in which something takes in another substance. The absorbed substance infiltrates the absorbing substance



A sponge absorbs water, increasing in size when it is full, and the water comes out easily when the sponge is squeezed

#### VS

#### Adsorption

Adsorption is a process in which a material (adsorbate) travels from a gas or liquid phase and forms a superficial monomolecular layer on a solid or liquid condensed phase (substrate). This can occur because of physical forces or by chemical bonds.

Doesn't happen in adsorption







#### Adsorption



Adsorbent - Coal
Adsorbed - Water
solution with dye

**Video 1:** Demonstration of the adsorption process







Biosorption

Chemical precipitation

Adsorption





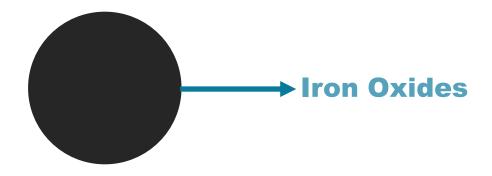


# In what consists our project?





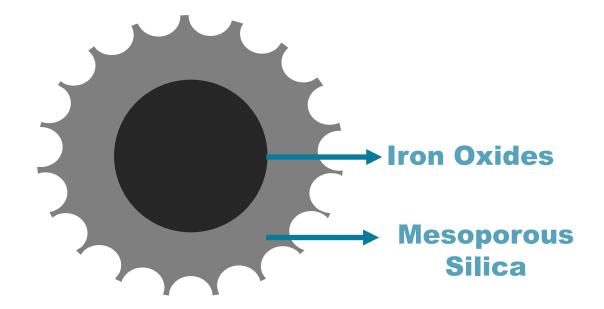








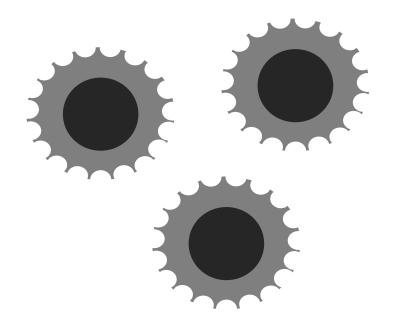


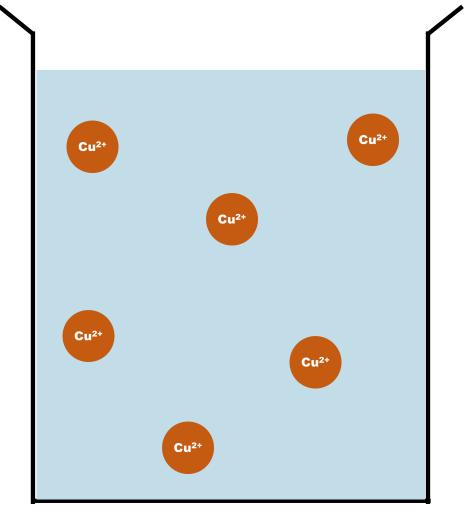








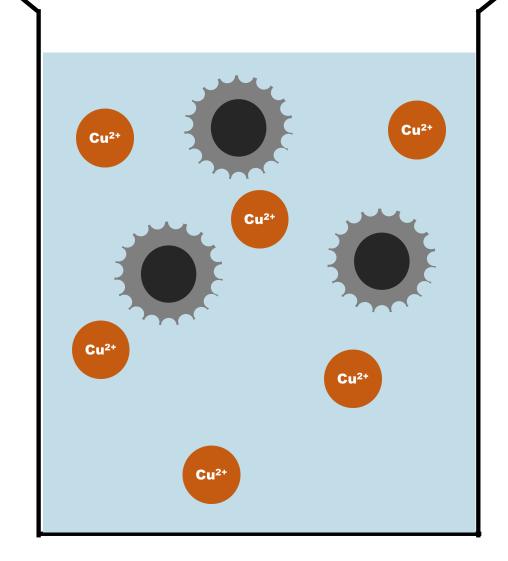








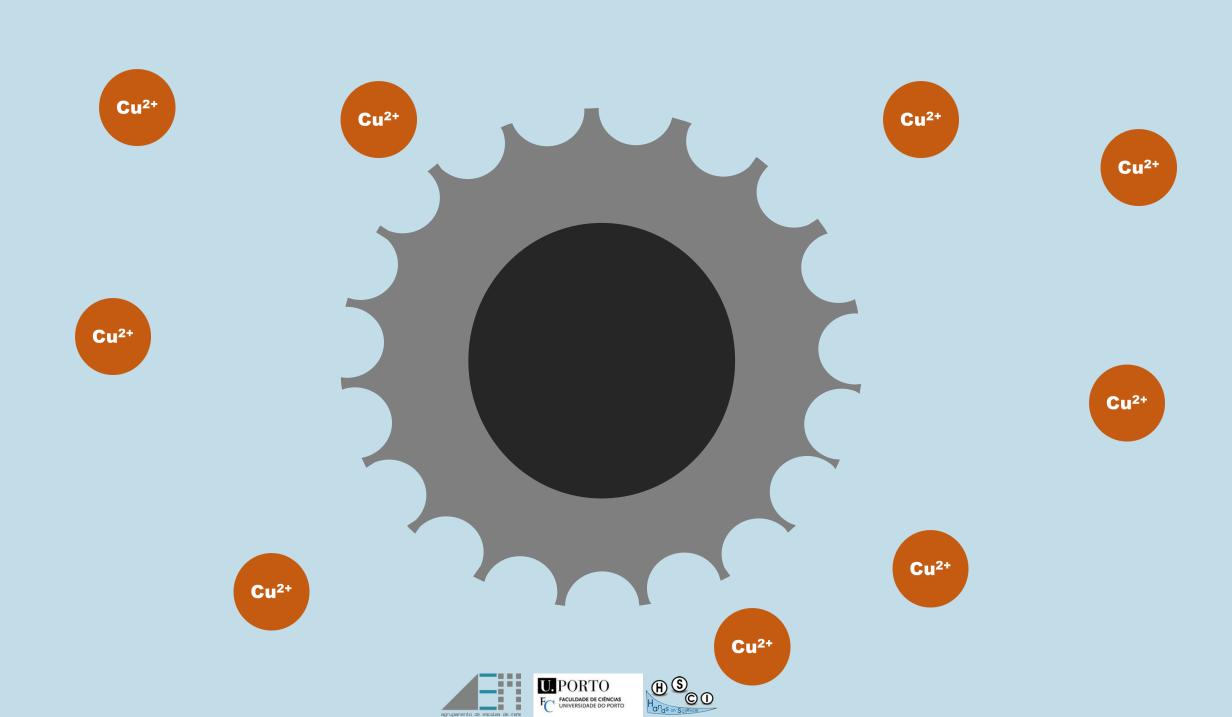


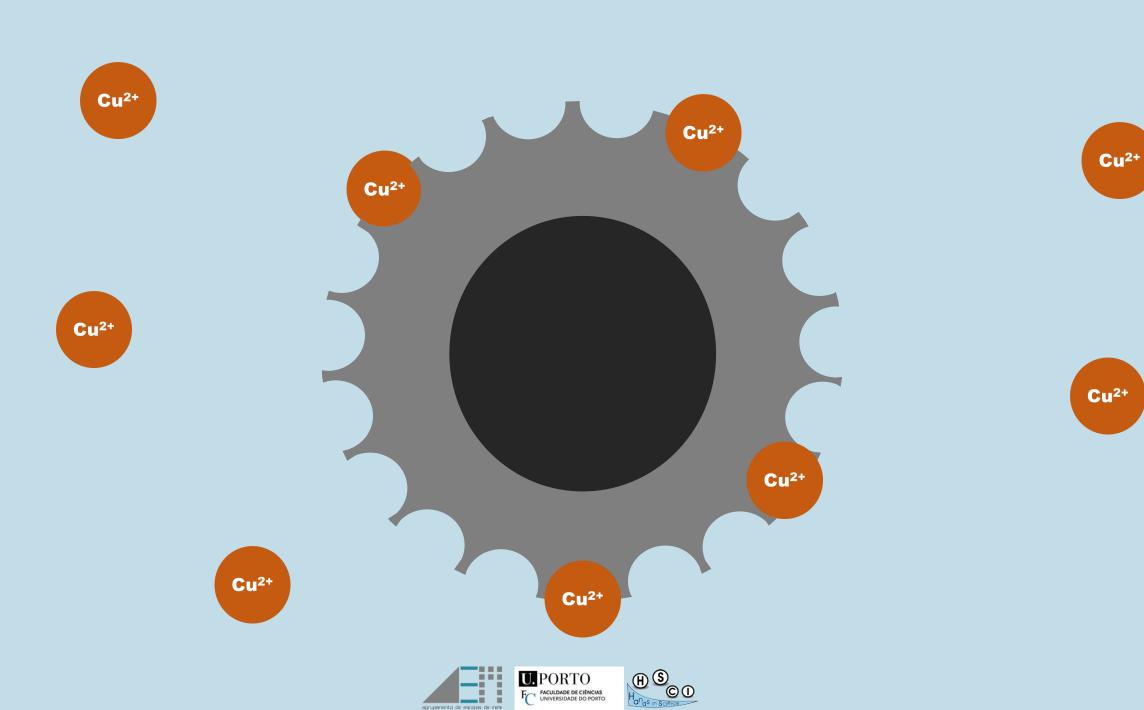


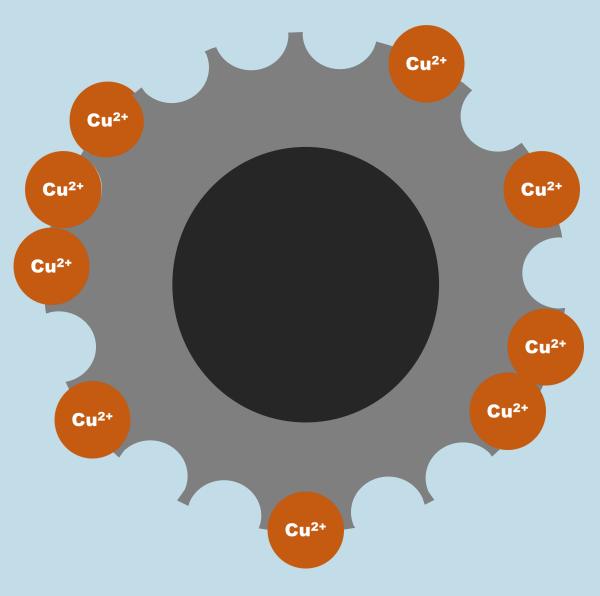








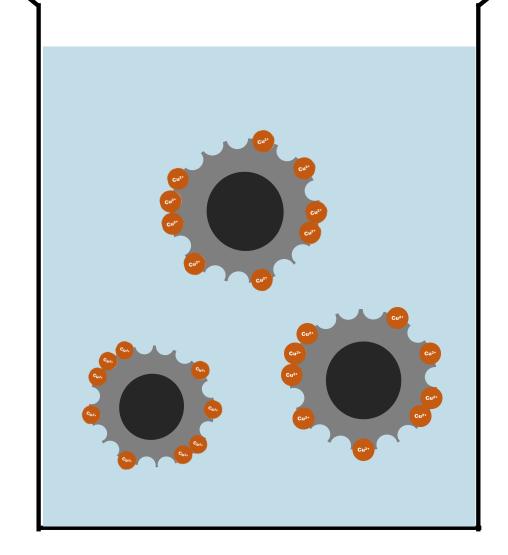








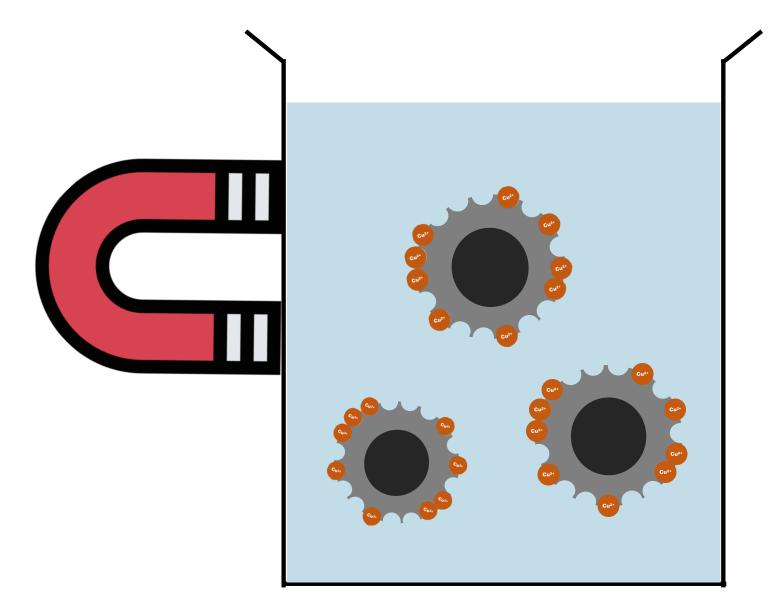








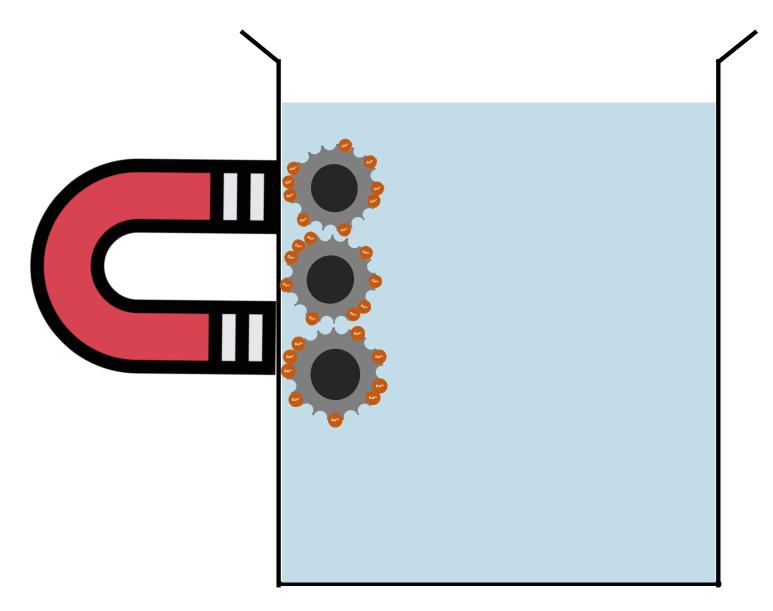








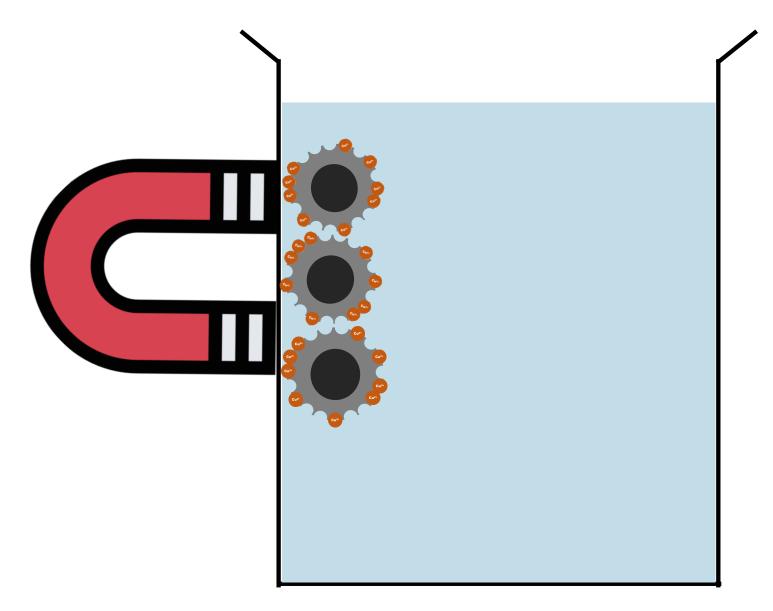








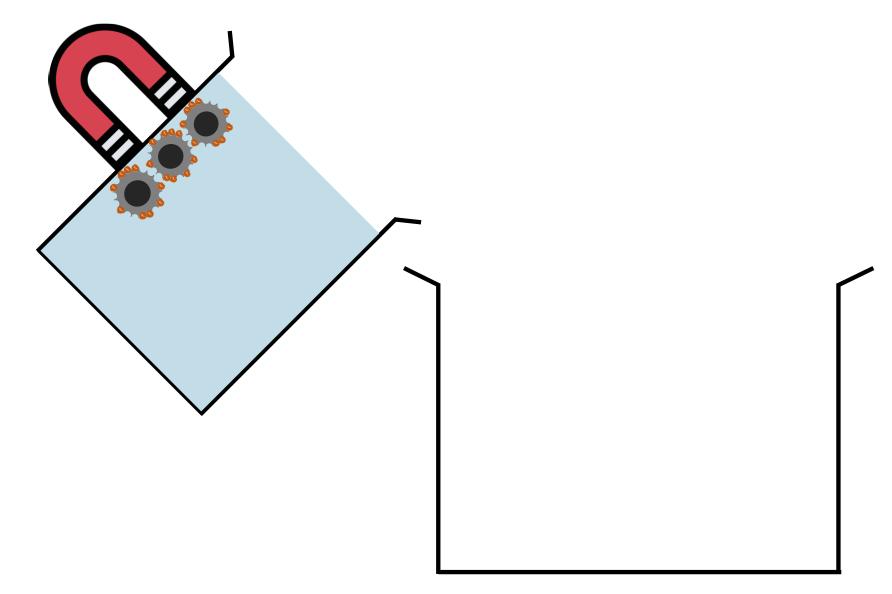








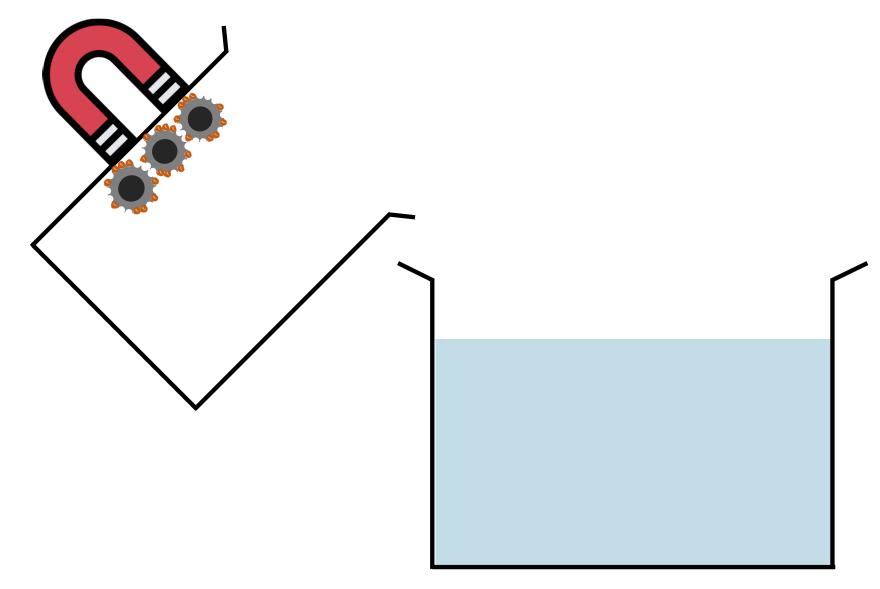








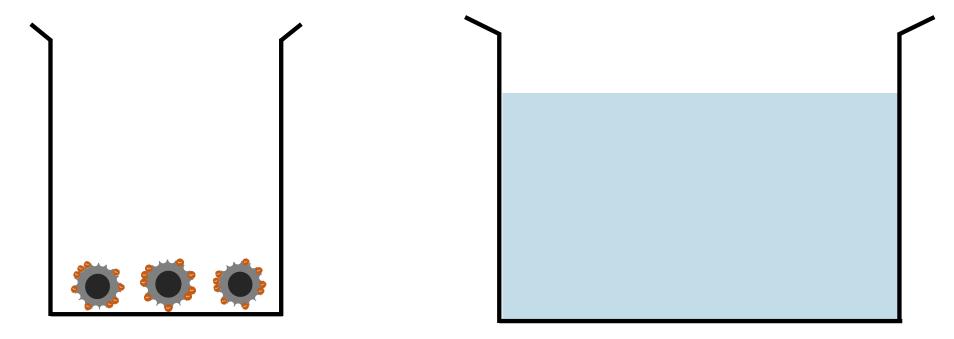








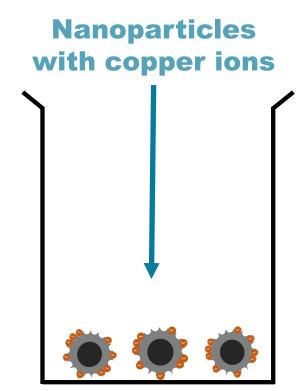


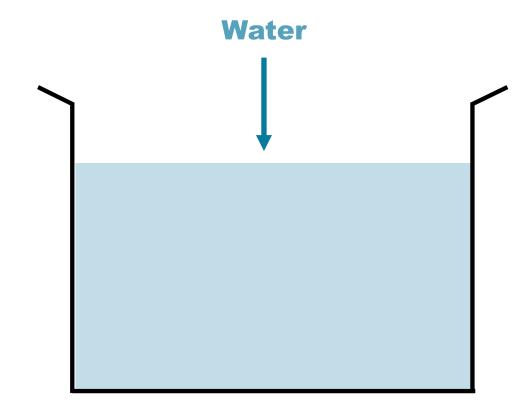


















# What are the objectives of our project?



Reduce the number of cases of heavy metal ion poisoning

Removal of heavy metal ions from contaminated water

Use of an inexpensive and effective process

Reduce chemical pollution









# Introduction





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Results and discussions



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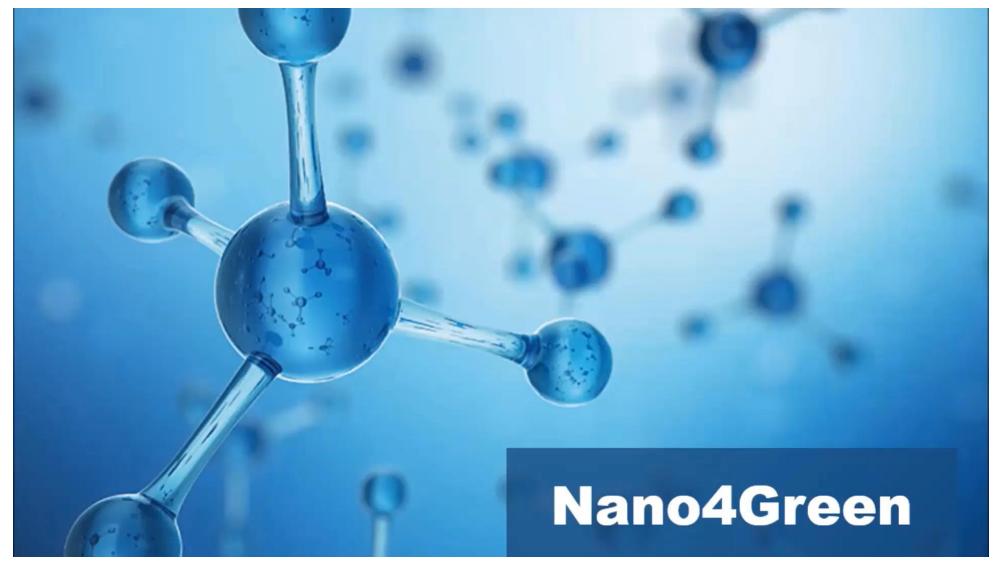








### Materials and methods



Video 2: Materials and methods used









# Introduction





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Zetasizer

Infrared Spectroscopy

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)

Atomic absorption spectroscopy with flame







### Zetasizer



**Figure 2:** Zetasizer results  $(Fe_3O_4)$ 



Figure 3: Zetasizer results  $(Fe_3O_4@SiO_2 - 1x)$ 

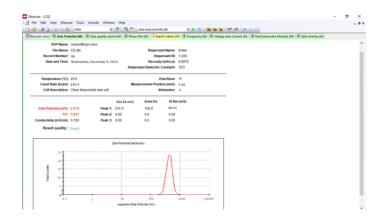


Figure 4: Zetasizer results  $(Fe_3O_4 @ SiO_2 - 2x)$ 







#### Zetasizer

	Particle size (d.nm)	PdI	Zeta potencial (mV)
1x	71.53	0.515	211.2
2x	202.9	0.267	275.9

**Table 2**: Comparison of Zetasizer results  $(Fe_3O_4@SiO_2 - 1x \text{ and } 2x)$ 

d.nm – diameter value in nanometers

PdI – polydispersity index

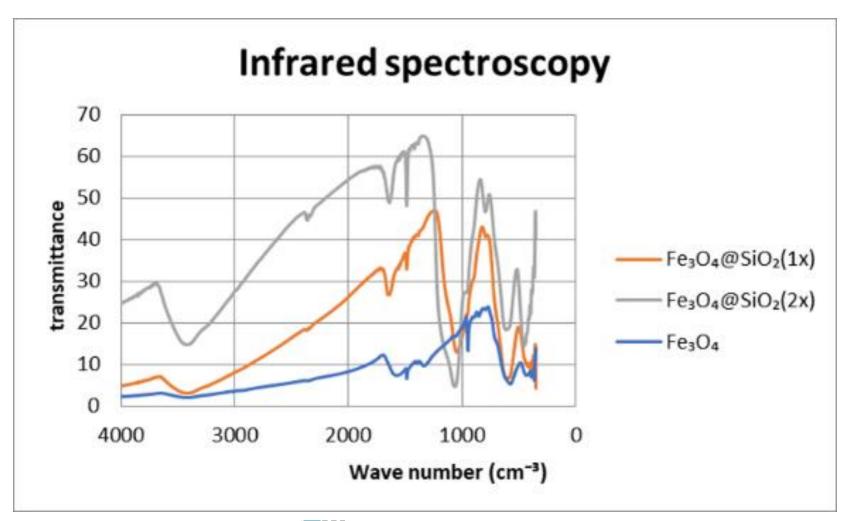
Zeta Potential - potential difference between the phase limits between solids and liquids. It is a measure of the electrical charge of particles that are suspended in liquid.







# Infrared Spectroscopy



**Graph 1**: Results of Infrared Spectroscopy







### **Scanning Electron** Microscope (SEM)

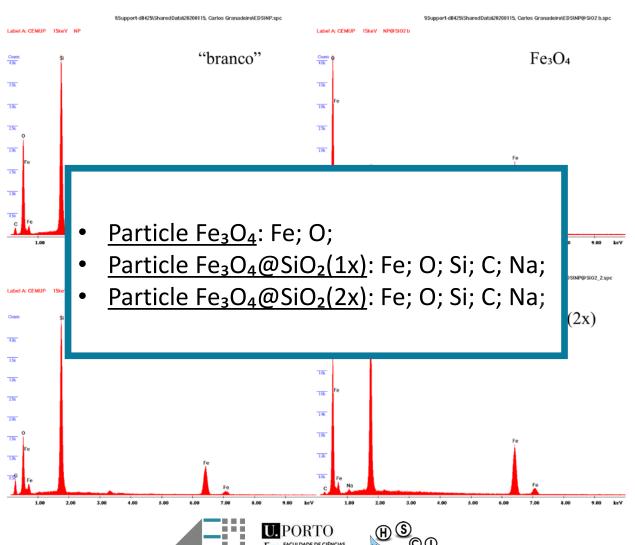


Figure 5: Result of Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)





### Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)

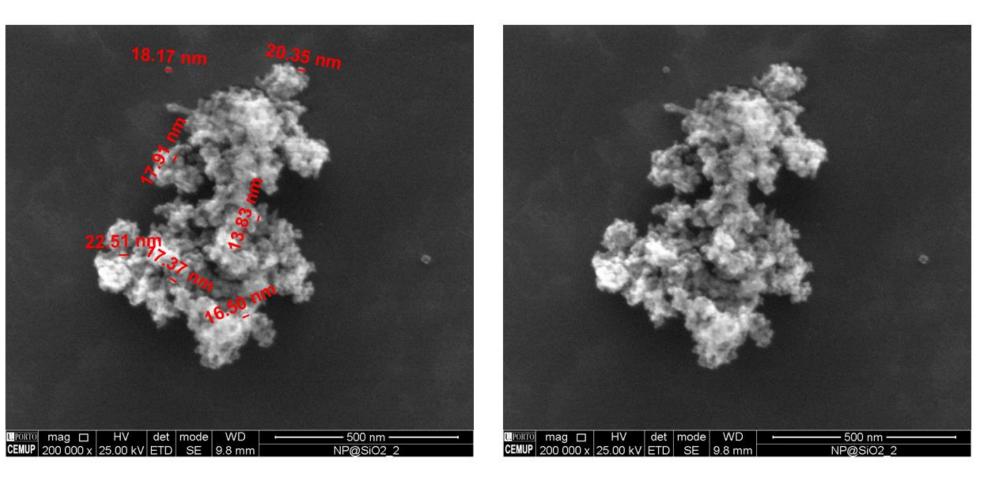


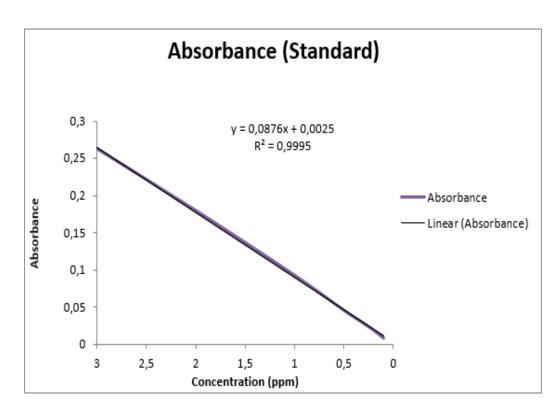
Figure 8: Result of SEM -Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@SiO<sub>2</sub>(2x)

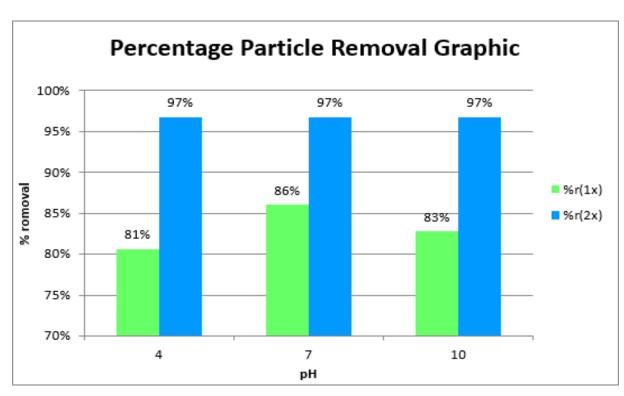






# Atomic absorption spectroscopy with flame





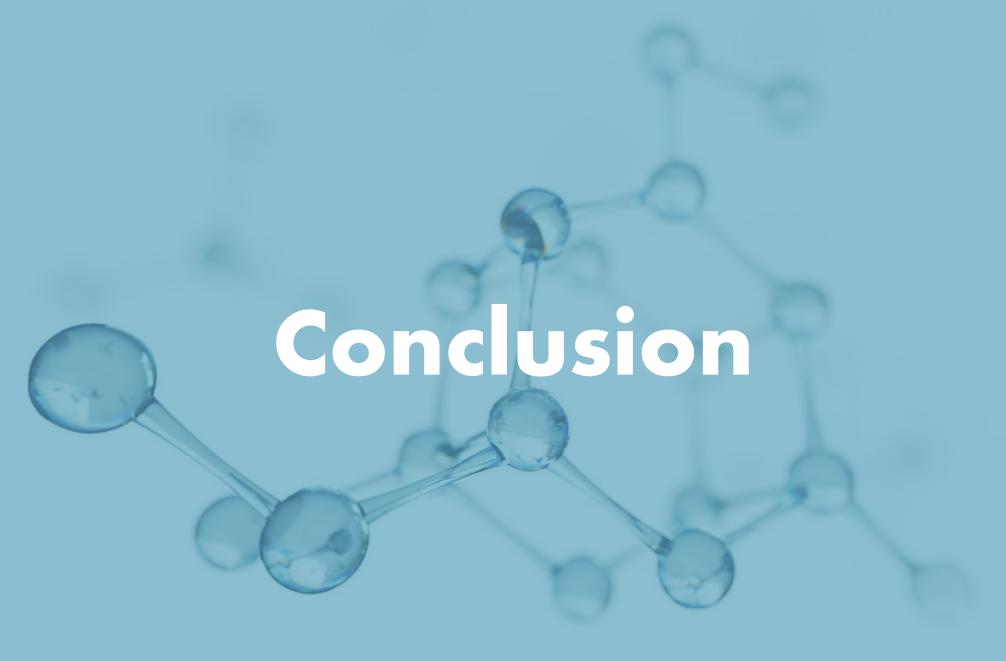
**Graphic 2:** Results

**Graphic 3:** Results















The results we obtained indicate that this work is highly promising as a future application to remove heavy metal ions from contaminated waters, since the developed adsorbent has quick and easy synthesis, low costs and its application proved to be efficient.





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Bibliographic references









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