

Original Research

## Soil Treatment from Hazardous Particles Using Designed Nanosensors: A Physical and Chemical Analysis

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**Academic Editor:** Rajesh Kumar Raju

**Special Issue:** [Nanoparticles in the Catalysis](#)

*Catalysis Research*

2025, volume 5, issue 1

doi:10.21926/cr.2501003

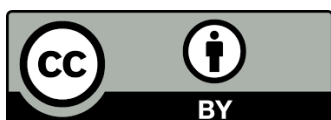
**Received:** November 11, 2024

**Accepted:** February 27, 2025

**Published:** March 06, 2025

### Abstract

Being critical to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, strengthening understanding of the properties and processes of soil at national and regional scales is imperative. The target of this research is removing transition metals of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd from soil due to nanomaterial-based boron nitride nanocage ( $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ ). The electromagnetic and thermodynamic attributes of toxic transition metals trapped in  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  were depicted by materials modeling. It has been studied the behavior of trapping of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd by  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  for sensing the soil metal cations.  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  was designed in the existence of transition metals (Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd). Case characterization was performed by the DFT method. The nature of covalent features for these complexes has represented the analogous energy amount and vision of the partial density of states between the  $p$  states of boron and nitrogen in  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  with and  $d$  states of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd in  $X \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes. Furthermore, the nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) analysis indicated the notable peaks surrounding Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd through the trapping in the  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  during atom detection and removal from soil; however, it can be seen some fluctuations in the chemical shielding treatment of isotropic and anisotropy tensors. Based on the results in this research, the selectivity of toxic metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements adsorption by  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$



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nc (atom sensor) have been indicated as:  $Cd > Zn > Fe > Cr > Mn \approx W$ . In this article, it is proposed that toxic metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements-adsorbed might be applied to design and expand the optoelectronic specifications of  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc for generating photoelectric instruments toward soil purification. The progress in surface selectivity improvement, mainly including a number of approaches such as crosslinking, nanoparticle doping, surface modification, and the use of unique synthetic methods, is summarized. These approaches are promising for ion-exchange membrane synthesis for electrodialysis, alternative energy, and valuable component extraction from natural or contaminated soil.

### Keywords

Nanomaterial; soil contamination;  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc; molecular modeling; DFT

## 1. Introduction

Numerous studies have examined the removal of heavy metals and organic-pollutants from different types of systems. Still, none of them have addressed the removal of these co-occurring heavy metals and organic pollutants and the use of microbes to do so. Therefore, the main focus of this review is on the recent developments in the concurrent microbial degradation of organo-pollutants and heavy metal removal [1].

Heavy metals remark to some metals and metalloids having biological toxicity like Cd, Hg, As, Pb, and Cr [2]. Heavy metal contamination of soil and the environment has been accelerated in modern society due to industrialization, rapidly expanded world population, and intensified agriculture. Accumulation of heavy metals often results in soil/water degradation and ecosystem malfunction. Moreover, heavy metals enter food chains from polluted soil, water, and air, and consequently cause food contamination, thus posing a threat to human and animal health [3-5]. Trace metals in soils and dust can accumulate in the human body via direct inhalation, ingestion, and dermal contact absorption [6-9] or the soil-crop system [10, 11]. The anthropogenic sources of metals include traffic emission, industrial and domestic emission, atmospheric deposition, mining, waste disposal, sewage, pesticides, and fertilizers [12-15]. Without proper management, abandoned mines will cause more serious environmental impacts than active mines [16]. Consumption of food crops growing in contaminated area is one of the important sources of human exposure to metals in mining areas [17-19].

Soil contamination in the urban environment by trace metals is of public concern. For better risk assessment, it is important to determine their background concentrations in urban soils. For instance, Molybdenum (Mo) is an essential trace element for human, animal, and plant health. Mo deficiency in soils has frequently been reported, especially under P-deficient conditions. However, Mo is also a potentially toxic contaminant to soils and aquifers that may pose a significant threat to ecological and human health [20]. Another research studied the sources and extent of arsenic (As) contamination and the translocation and speciation from microbes to soil are illustrated [21]. Moreover, several activities can build up soil copper (Cu) concentrations, leading to incorporation into the food chain and adversely affecting natural and managed ecosystems [22]. The cobalt (Co)-contaminated soil has exposed potential toxicity to humans, plants, and animals. Recently, scientists

have summarized the natural and anthropogenic sources arousing the increase of cobalt in soil and reviewed the cobalt species in soil and factors that influence the mobilization of cobalt [23].

Soil contamination in urban environment by trace metals is of public concerns. For better risk assessment, it is essential to determine their background concentrations in urban soils. One investigation determined the concentrations of 9 trace metals including As, Ba, Cd, Co, Cu, Ni, Pb, Se, and Zn in 214 urban soils from 6 cities of different sizes from both public and commercial sites in Florida [24].

Toxic heavy metals, organic pollutants, and emerging contaminants, as well as other biotic and abiotic stressors, can all affect nutrient availability, plant metabolic pathways, agricultural productivity, and soil fertility. Microbes can inhibit THMs uptake, degrade organic pollutants, and release biomolecules that regulate crop development under drought, salinity, pathogenic attack, and other stresses. Despite the fact that root exudates have the potential to attract selected microorganisms and biochar, there has been little attention paid to these areas, considering that this work addresses a critical knowledge gap of rhizospheric engineering-mediated root exudates to foster microbial and biochar adaptation [25].

Boron nitride nanomaterials have been used owing to their unique characteristics, such as eco-friendly attributes for pollutant adsorption, big surface area, high chemical & mechanical strength, and semiconducting properties [26-29]. Boron nitride nanomaterials usually exhibit semi-leading behavior, which is considered a proper alternative to carbon nanotubes. The properties of boron and nitrogen atoms, which are the first neighbors of carbon in the periodic table, make boron nitride an interesting subject of numerous studies [30-32]. In recent years, different investigations on the adsorption of chemical contaminants and applying various boron nitride nanomaterials as adsorbents for water purification have been studied [33-35].

Various physical shapes of boron nitride (BN)-based nano adsorbents such as nanoparticles, fullerenes, nanotubes, nanofibers, nanoribbons, nanosheets, nanomeshes, nanoflowers, and hollow spheres have been broadly considered possible adsorbents owing to their exceptional characteristics such as large surface area, structural variability, great chemical/mechanical strength, abundant structural defects, high reactive sites, and functional groups [36, 37].

In this work,  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc has been modeled for trapping transition metals of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd. Physical and chemical properties of the interaction binding between Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd, and boron/nitrogen in  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc have been estimated.

## 2. Theory, Substances, and Approaches

### 2.1 Trapping Metal, Metalloid and Nonmetal Elements in $B_5N_{10}$ -nc

The goal of this research article is to detect and trap the metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms from soil by using  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc. The intention is to remove Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd from the soil medium containing toxic ingredients. The soil medium consists of metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms and the added  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc.  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc was modeled in the presence of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd through computational methods of density functional method of CAM-B3LYP-D3.

The metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms were successfully incorporated in the center of  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc toward formation of  $Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, and  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc complexes and charge distribution of these complexes has been computed owing

to the parameter of Bader charge evaluation [38]. Irrespective of what element, the B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc becomes bigger for embedding these elements.

## 2.2 Method of Density Functional Theory (DFT)

There are many ions and electrons in a metallic solid, which form a many-body system. DFT has been performed in this article due to projector/ameliorated/wave method, Perdew/Burke/Ernzerhof functional based on the generalized gradient approximation as the exchange-correlation functional, and non-empirical PBE functional [39-42]. For years, discussions on metals and metalloids with computed bandwidths have been meaningful in DFT. In this paper, it has been investigated first principles calculations for trapping transition metals of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd by B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc using DFT methods.

The electronic density within the Kohn-Sham (KS) equations leads us to a considerable reduction of quantum computing towards Hamiltonian parameter [43, 44]:

$$\hat{H}_s = - \sum_i^M \frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + \sum_i^M v_s(\vec{r}_i) = \sum_i^M \hat{h}_s; \quad \hat{h}_s = -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + v_s(\vec{r}_i), \quad (1)$$

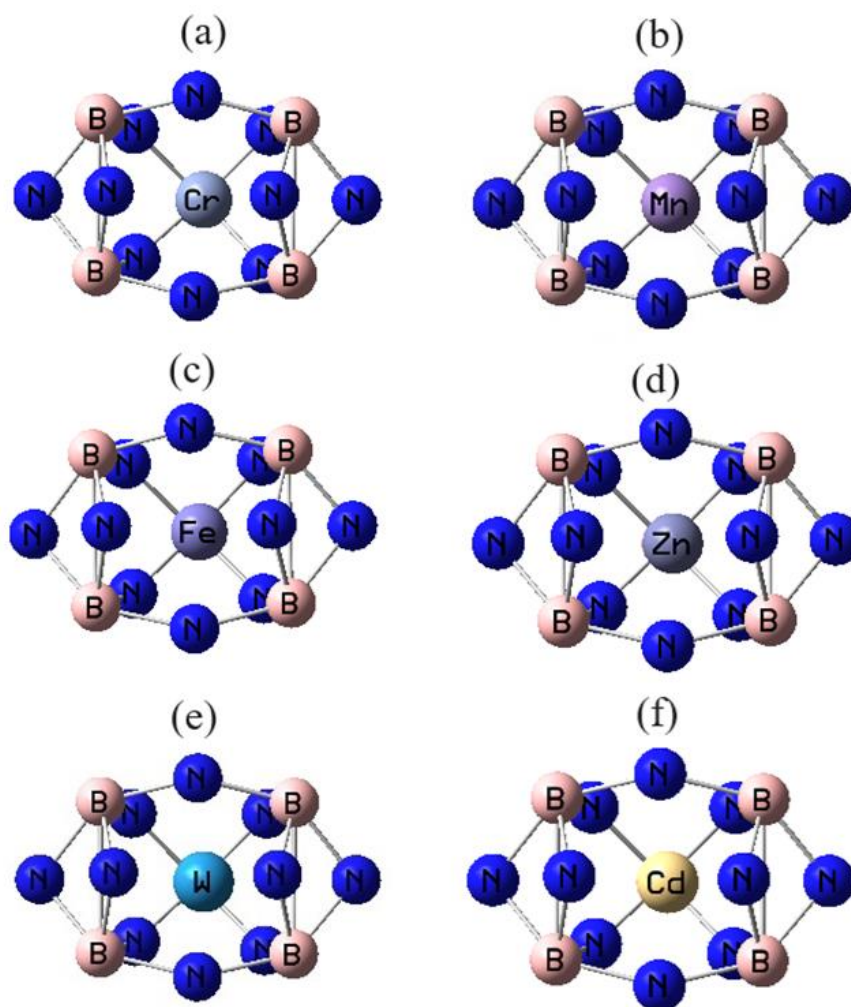
where  $M$  is non-interactive electrons,  $v_s$  is external potential. Thus, by measuring  $\psi_i$  (single particle orbitals), the parameter of electronic densities for electrons with noninteractions will be:

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = \sum_i^M |\psi_i(\vec{r})|^2. \quad (2)$$

So, the total energy will be:

$$E[\rho] = \sum_i^M n_i \langle \psi_i | -\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + v_{ext}(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{\rho(\vec{r}')}{|\vec{r} - \vec{r}'|} d\vec{r}' | \psi_i \rangle + E_{xc}[\rho] + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\beta}^N \sum_{\alpha \neq \beta}^N \frac{Z_{\alpha} Z_{\beta}}{|\vec{R}_{\alpha} - \vec{R}_{\beta}|}. \quad (3)$$

Furthermore, B3LYP (Becke, Lee, Yang, Parr) is a hybrid functional of the 3-parameter basis function and LANL2DZ basis set for metals and metalloids within the DFT approach [45-50]. In addition, a new hybrid exchange–correlation functional called CAM–B3LYP was suggested which merges B3LYP and the long-range correction [51]. Moreover, the DFT functionals with the Grimme's D3 correction has been considered [52]. The approach of dispersion correction is added to Kohn-Sham density functional theory (DFT-D) with higher accuracy [53, 54]. Besides, in the DFT–D3 method of Grimme et al., the expression for the Van Der Waals (vdW)-dispersion energy-correction term is used [52]. In this work, DFT computations were accomplished by Gaussian 16 revision C.01 program package [55]. The z-matrix coordination has been built for trapping transition metals of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd in soil by the B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc using GaussView 6.1 [56] via the solid model and coordination (Figure 1).



**Figure 1** Optimized complexes of a)  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , b)  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , c)  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , d)  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , e)  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and f)  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  using CAM-B3LYP-D3/EPR-3, LANL2DZ.

The consequences will remark on the following challenges faced by the DFT approaches in accurately describing the (transition metals) - (boron and nitrogen) bonding. The adsorption status of this research was evaluated based on the simulation results. The main objective of this project was to develop a complete simulation test for eliminating soil contaminants, that can be used in future laboratory experiments.

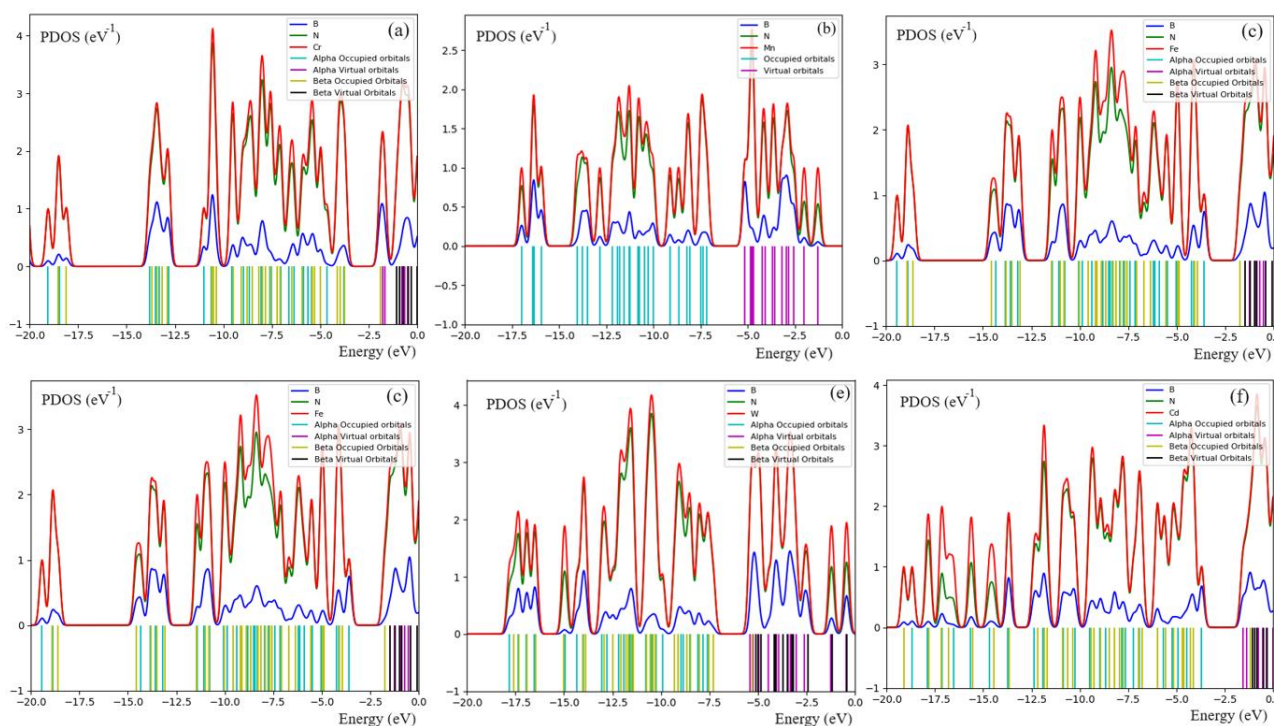
### 3. Results and Discussions

$\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  has been modeled for trapping transition metals of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd. Physical and chemical properties of the interaction binding between Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd, and boron/nitrogen in  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  have been estimated.

#### 3.1 Electronic Evaluation & PDOS

The electronic structure of toxic element trapping including Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd using  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  has been illustrated using CAM-B3LYP-D3/6-311+G (d,p), LANL2DZ level of theory. Figure 2(a-f) shows the projected density of state (PDOS) of  $\text{X} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  through Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd

encapsulation. The existence of the energy states (*p*-orbital) of B, N, and (*d*-orbital) of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd within the gap of  $X \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  induces the system's reactivity. It is clear from the figure that after trapping of transition metals, there is a significant contribution of *d*-orbital in the unoccupied level. Therefore, the curve of partial PDOS has described that *p* states of B, N atoms in  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  and *d*-orbital of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd in  $X \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  overcome due to the conduction band (Figure 1 (a-f)). A distinguished adsorption trait might be seen in  $X \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  because of the potent interaction between the *p* states of boron and nitrogen in  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  with *d* states of As, Se, Co, Cu, Mo in  $X \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes.



**Figure 2** PDOS encapsulation of transition metals by  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  toward formation of complexes including a)  $Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , b)  $Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , c)  $Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , d)  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , e)  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and f)  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  by CAM-B3LYP-D3/6-311+G (d,p), LANL2DZ.

Figure 2(a-f) shows that  $Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes have the most contribution at the middle of the conduction band between -5 to -15 eV. In contrast, the contribution of boron and nitrogen states are enlarged and similar, and the grabbing of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd depicts the interfacial electronic of the  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  for selecting these atoms.  $Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  has indicated one sharp peak around -10 eV for Cr in Figure 2(a), while  $Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 2b) has a sharp peak around -5 eV for Mn. The complexes of  $Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 2c) and  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 2d) have exhibited a sharp peak around -8.5 eV for Fe and Zn atoms, respectively. Furthermore,  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 2e) has exhibited an intense peak around -10 eV through the graphs for W. Moreover, the Cd graph in  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 2f) with a sharp peak around -12.5 eV attracts our attention.

As it can be seen, the order potency of atom grabbing of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd by  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  based on the PDOS might be shifted as:  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} > W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} \approx Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} > Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} \approx Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} \gg Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ . The notion of donor and acceptor bonds is a ubiquitous concept

appearing in many areas of chemistry. It is widely used for the rationalization of otherwise not easily understandable chemical properties, incredibly complex compounds. The common consensus for the  $\text{TM} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  bonding picture remains the synergistic donation of  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  electrons via  $\sigma$  bonds into empty TM d orbitals and backdonation from the metal center into  $\pi^*$  orbitals of the  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  ligands, mitigated by  $\text{TM} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$   $\pi$  bonds due to the significant overlap of TM d and  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$   $\pi^*$  orbitals. It was found that the occurrence of metal-ligand  $\pi$  bonds through metal d functions greatly enhances the complex stabilities.

### 3.2 Theoretical Insight & Analysis of Electric Potential

A nuclear quadrupole is a resonance (NQR) related to NMR that shows the unsymmetrical distribution of an electric charge of a spinning nucleus. All nuclei with a spin number  $\geq 1$  have a magnetic moment and an electric quadrupole moment that measures the deviation of the distribution of the positive charge in the nucleus [57-59]. In this work, the quantum mechanics of NQR [60-62] at zero-field containing the magnitudes of nuclear quadrupole moments have been carried out on trapping Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd by  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  [60-62]:

$$V(r) = V(0) + \left[ \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_i} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i \right] + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i x_j \right] + \dots \quad (4)$$

$$U = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3r \rho_r \left[ \left( \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x_i^2} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i^2 \right] = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3r \rho_r \left[ \left( \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial x_i} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot x_i^2 \right] = -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial E_i}{\partial x_i} \right) \Big|_0 \cdot \int_{\mathcal{D}} d^3r [\rho(r) \cdot x_i^2] \quad (5)$$

$$\chi = e^2 Q q_{zz} / \hbar \quad (6)$$

$$\eta = q_{xx} - q_{yy} / q_{zz} \quad (7)$$

Since the electric field gradient (EFG) at the settlement of the nucleus in metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms including Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd is defined by the valence electrons bent in the pure location with familiar nuclei of  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  through trapping of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd, the frequency of NQR at which intermediates occur is only for  $\text{X} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes ( $\text{X} = \text{Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd}$ ) (Table 1 & Table 2). In the present research, the electric potential via Bader charge was estimated for  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes (Table 1 & Table 2).



**Table 1** The amounts of electric potential ( $E_p$ /a.u.) and Bader charge (Q/coulomb) through NQR calculation for  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes.

$\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$			$\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$			$\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$		
Atom	Q	$E_p$	Atom	Q	$E_p$	Atom	Q	$E_p$
B1	0.2828	-11.2393	B1	0.1887	-11.2193	B1	0.2717	-11.2441
N2	-0.2049	-18.105	N2	-0.0523	-18.282	N2	-0.1845	-18.0895
N3	-0.2541	-18.1164	N3	-0.1655	-18.3053	N3	-0.2511	-18.1138
B4	0.3299	-11.2321	B4	0.2017	-11.216	B4	0.3140	-11.2473
B5	0.3201	-11.2409	B5	0.2274	-11.2108	B5	0.3133	-11.2418
B6	0.3188	-11.2218	B6	0.1993	-11.214	B6	0.2786	-11.2448
N7	-0.1983	-18.1174	N7	-0.0548	-18.2828	N7	-0.1739	-18.1000
N8	-0.2688	-18.1262	N8	-0.1643	-18.2941	N8	-0.2434	-18.1089
N9	-0.3384	-18.1411	N9	-0.0516	-18.2949	N9	-0.3647	-18.1450
N10	-0.3121	-18.1349	N10	-0.0570	-18.291	N10	-0.3191	-18.1405
N11	-0.2881	-18.1448	N11	-0.0701	-18.2889	N11	-0.2773	-18.1317
N12	-0.3654	-18.1287	N12	-0.0798	-18.2973	N12	-0.3987	-18.1326
B13	0.1103	-11.2455	B13	0.3039	-11.2192	B13	-0.0212	-11.2706
N14	-0.1623	-18.0959	N14	-0.1153	-18.2945	N14	-0.1363	-18.0795
N15	-0.1702	-18.1124	N15	-0.1382	-18.293	N15	-0.1591	-18.0975
Cr16	1.2008	-101.752	Mn16	-0.1721	-16.5602	Fe16	1.3518	-113.9002
$\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$			$\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$			$\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$		
Atom	Q	$E_p$	Atom	Q	$E_p$	Atom	Q	$E_p$
B1	0.2799	-11.2520	B1	0.2011	-11.2204	B1	0.2777	-11.2438
N2	-0.2288	-18.1241	N2	-0.0759	-18.2918	N2	-0.2465	-18.1376
N3	-0.2132	-18.1010	N3	-0.2086	-18.3087	N3	-0.2229	-18.0972
B4	0.3237	-11.2448	B4	0.2295	-11.2118	B4	0.3237	-11.2384
B5	0.3168	-11.2466	B5	0.2541	-11.2091	B5	0.3014	-11.2511
B6	0.2980	-11.2448	B6	0.2326	-11.2120	B6	0.2946	-11.2431
N7	-0.1943	-18.1118	N7	-0.0460	-18.2929	N7	-0.2207	-18.1338
N8	-0.2260	-18.0996	N8	-0.2068	-18.3070	N8	-0.2303	-18.1073
N9	-0.3150	-18.1335	N9	-0.1994	-18.3165	N9	-0.3292	-18.1283
N10	-0.2951	-18.1390	N10	-0.1921	-18.3082	N10	-0.3202	-18.1389
N11	-0.2585	-18.1334	N11	-0.2121	-18.3019	N11	-0.2763	-18.1419
N12	-0.3695	-18.1353	N12	-0.2191	-18.3161	N12	-0.4067	-18.1296
B13	0.0617	-11.2438	B13	0.4340	-11.2307	B13	0.0513	-11.2051
N14	-0.1729	-18.1144	N14	-0.0319	-18.2847	N14	-0.1703	-18.1083
N15	-0.1664	-18.1025	N15	-0.0755	-18.2875	N15	-0.1538	-18.1018
Zn16	1.1597	-139.8870	W16	0.1162	-10.3367	Cd16	1.3286	-268.156



**Table 2** The amounts of electric potential ( $E_p$ /a.u.) and Bader charge (Q/coulomb) through NQR calculation for  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes.

$Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$			$W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$			$Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$		
Atom	Q	$E_p$	Atom	Q	$E_p$	Atom	Q	$E_p$
B1	0.2799	-11.2520	B1	0.2011	-11.2204	B1	0.2777	-11.2438
N2	-0.2288	-18.1241	N2	-0.0759	-18.2918	N2	-0.2465	-18.1376
N3	-0.2132	-18.1010	N3	-0.2086	-18.3087	N3	-0.2229	-18.0972
B4	0.3237	-11.2448	B4	0.2295	-11.2118	B4	0.3237	-11.2384
B5	0.3168	-11.2466	B5	0.2541	-11.2091	B5	0.3014	-11.2511
B6	0.2980	-11.2448	B6	0.2326	-11.2120	B6	0.2946	-11.2431
N7	-0.1943	-18.1118	N7	-0.0460	-18.2929	N7	-0.2207	-18.1338
N8	-0.2260	-18.0996	N8	-0.2068	-18.3070	N8	-0.2303	-18.1073
N9	-0.3150	-18.1335	N9	-0.1994	-18.3165	N9	-0.3292	-18.1283
N10	-0.2951	-18.1390	N10	-0.1921	-18.3082	N10	-0.3202	-18.1389
N11	-0.2585	-18.1334	N11	-0.2121	-18.3019	N11	-0.2763	-18.1419
N12	-0.3695	-18.1353	N12	-0.2191	-18.3161	N12	-0.4067	-18.1296
B13	0.0617	-11.2438	B13	0.4340	-11.2307	B13	0.0513	-11.2051
N14	-0.1729	-18.1144	N14	-0.0319	-18.2847	N14	-0.1703	-18.1083
N15	-0.1664	-18.1025	N15	-0.0755	-18.2875	N15	-0.1538	-18.1018
Zn16	1.1597	-139.8870	W16	0.1162	-10.3367	Cd16	1.3286	-268.156

Furthermore, in Table 1 & Table 2, the graph of electric potential fluctuation via Bader charge for toxic transition metals of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd grabbed by the  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 1(a-f)) have been assessed. In Table 1 & Table 2 the trapping fluctuation of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd by  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  for sensing the toxic metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms in the contaminated soil can be observed. The graph of  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  is bent by these toxic atoms. The sharpest curves for electric potential were nominated for metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms trapped by the  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  that prove the electron attaining of these elements aided by boron and nitrogen atoms of  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  based on the relation coefficient of  $R^2$  as:  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} > Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} \approx Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} > Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} > Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc} > W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Table 1 & Table 2). The electric potential illustrates how the energy of an adsorbate molecule changes as it approaches, interacts with, and adheres to the surface of an adsorbent. The decrease in electrical potential is due to the significant contribution of electrostatic energy.

### 3.3 Background & Application of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)

The investigation of NMR of high- materials and other correlated-electron systems improved for conventional superconductors and d-band transition metals, alloys, and intermetallic compounds [63].

Magnetic field gradients make it feasible to tag spatial coordinates within a model. The frequencies resonance of most atoms is well segregated from each other which causes NMR to be an element-specific method. Interactions of spins with their local environment direct to spectral alterations that evoke the local geometry and physicochemical states. Therefore, the NMR spectrum of  $B_5N_{10}\text{-nc}$  for trapping metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms containing Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd

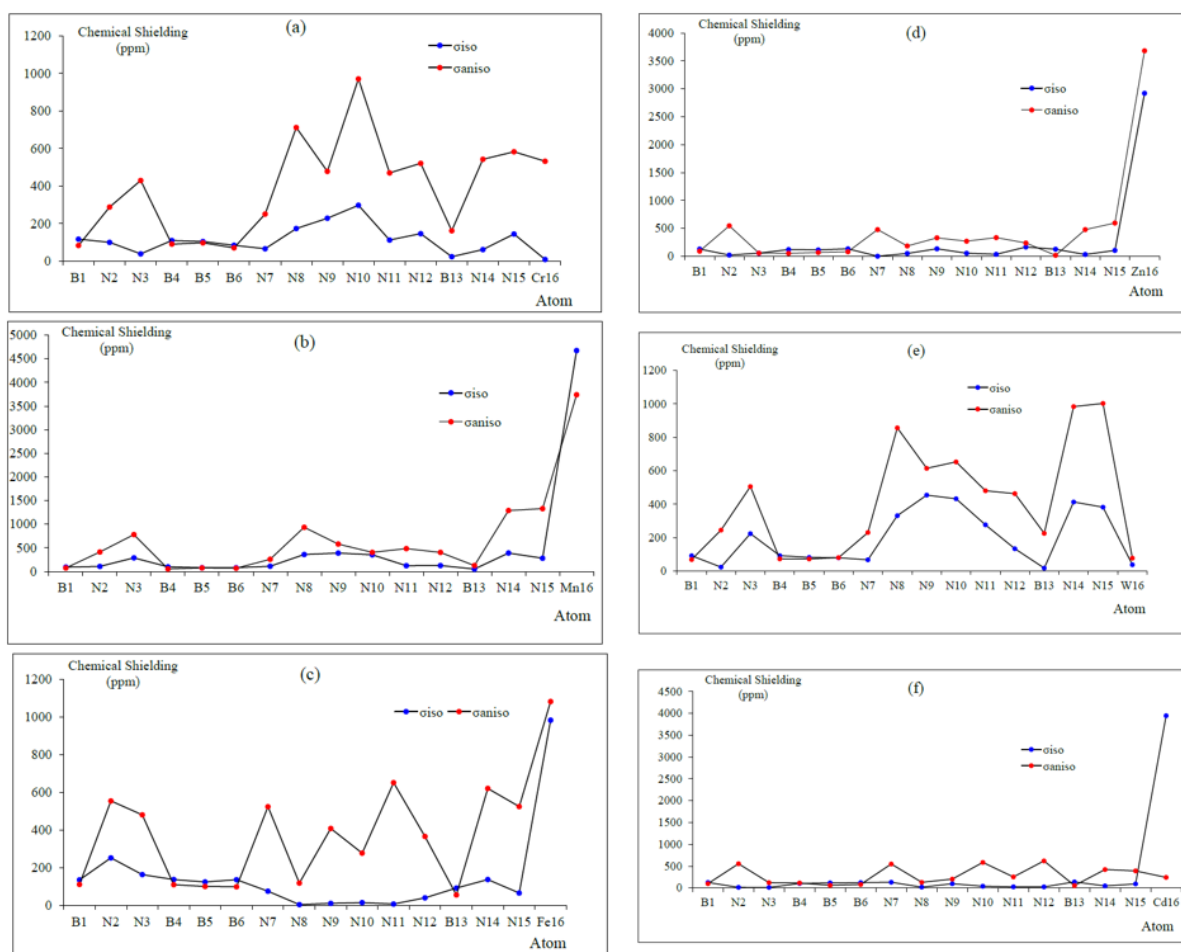
might illustrate the possibility of  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc for sensing and grabbing these toxic elements from contaminated soil toward measuring the isotropic chemical-shielding (CSI) and anisotropic chemical-shielding (CSA) [64, 65]:

$$\sigma_{iso} = (\sigma_{11} + \sigma_{22} + \sigma_{33})/3; \quad (8)$$

$$\sigma_{aniso} = \sigma_{33} - (\sigma_{22} + \sigma_{11})/2 \quad (9)$$

The NMR quantities of isotropic ( $\sigma_{iso}$ ) and anisotropic shielding tensor ( $\sigma_{aniso}$ ) of Ba, As, Se, Co, Cu, Mo trapped the in the  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc towards formation of  $Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc,  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, and  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc complexes was computed by Gaussian 16 revision C.01 program package [55].

Figure 3(a-f) indicated the same desire for shielding factor for boron and nitrogen; however, a remarkable deviation is observed from trapping atoms of Cr (16) (Figure 3a), Mn (16) (Figure 3b), Fe (16) (Figure 3c), Zn (16) (Figure 3d), W (16) (Figure 3e), Cd (16) (Figure 3f) through interaction with boron and nitrogen of  $B_5N_{10}$ -nc.



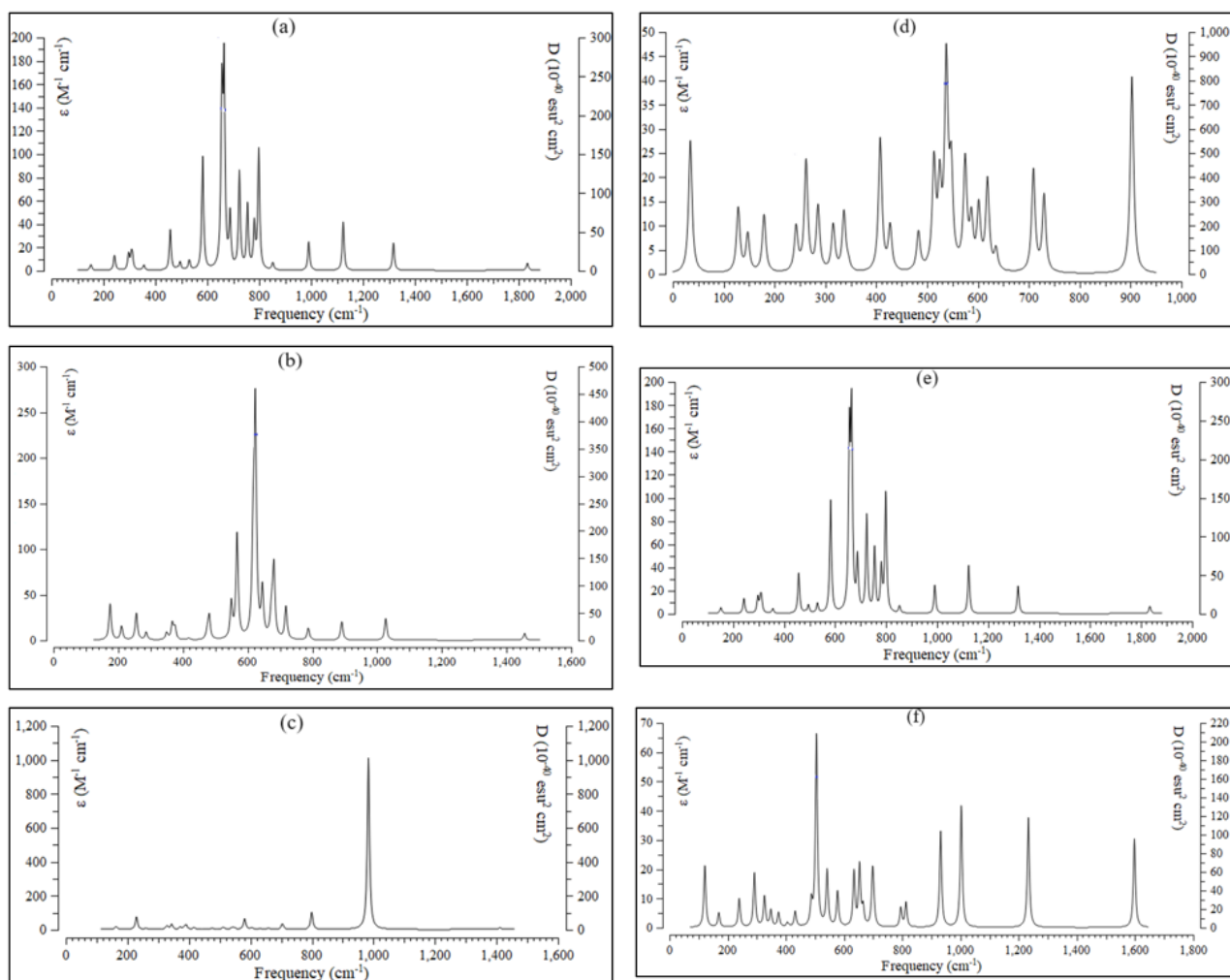
**Figure 3** The NMR spectrum for complexes of a)  $Cr \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, b)  $Mn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, c)  $Fe \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, d)  $Zn \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, e)  $W \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc, and f)  $Cd \leftrightarrow B_5N_{10}$ -nc using CAM-B3LYP-D3/LANL2DZ.

In Figure 3(a-f), toxic elements of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd in the complexes of  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 3a),  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 3b),  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 3c),  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 3d),  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 3e), and  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 3f) describe the oscillation in the chemical shielding during atom capture. Figure 3(a-f) defines the chemical shielding between boron/nitrogen in  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  and metal, metalloid and nonmetal atoms. Thus, it may be brought up that the turnover of electron admitting for the captured toxic atoms in the  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  is  $\text{Cd} > \text{Zn} > \text{Fe} > \text{Mn} > \text{Cr} \approx \text{W}$  that proves the strength of covalent bond across boron/nitrogen and these elements toward atom catching.

The curves of metal, metalloid, and nonmetal elements of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd through the trapping in the  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  during atom detection and removal from soil. Probing the central metal with NMR can provide information on the geometrical and electronic structure of transition-metal compounds. Accurate quantum-chemical computations of the salient metal NMR parameters can be a valuable complement to experiments, which are frequently plagued by low sensitivity, poor resolution or other fundamental problems, particularly for quadrupolar nuclei. Current computational approaches are mainly rooted in density functional theory and face different challenges, namely the proper choice of the exchange-correlation functional and the treatment of relativistic, solvation, and dynamical effects.

### **3.4 Interpreting Infrared (IR) Spectra**

Trapping metal, metalloid, and nonmetal elements of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd in the  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  have been evaluated by IR spectroscopy during atom sensing in soil. The complexes of  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 4a),  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 4b),  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 4c),  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 4d),  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 4e), and  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (Figure 4f) have been analyzed through the IR spectroscopy.



**Figure 4** IR spectra for complexes of a)  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , b)  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , c)  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , d)  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , e)  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and f)  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes.

The graph of Figure 4(a) has been shown the frequency of about 200–1800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  with several sharp peaks around 655.26, 691.58, and 714.46  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Then, Figure 4(b) shows the frequency limitation across 200–1100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  with several sharp peaks around 567.21, 616.88, 623.54, and 680.89  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Figure 4(c) indicates the frequency around 1800–1100  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  with one sharp peak around 983.42  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Figure 4(d) shows the fluctuation frequency between 50–950  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  with two sharp peaks around 537.66 and 902.68  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Figure 4(e) indicates the frequency fluctuation between 200–1400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  with several sharp peaks around 582.28, 656.11, 664.63, 723.76, and 798.39  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Figure 4(f) shows the frequency range between 100–1600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  with several sharp peaks around 504.75, 1002.32, and 1233.14  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Table 3 has described that  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  owing to capture transition metals including Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd might be more efficient detector for sensing and catching these elements from soil. For such a purpose, classical infrared spectroscopy can give valuable structural information derived from analysis of the wavenumber shifts undergone by meaningful vibrational modes of the adsorbed molecule, and from the (relative) intensity of the corresponding IR absorption bands.

**Table 3** The thermochemical characters of  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  complexes.

Compound	Dipole moment (Debye)	$\Delta E^\circ \times 10^{-3}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta H^\circ \times 10^{-3}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G^\circ \times 10^{-3}$ (kcal/mol)	$S^\circ$ (cal/K.mol)
$\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	0.2020	-420.550	-420.549	-420.579	100.650
$\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	0.6941	-1063.754	-1063.754	-1063.782	94.375
$\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	0.4888	-485.602	-485.602	-485.629	90.852
$\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	1.4484	-1199.586	-1199.585	-1199.614	95.351
$\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	0.9416	-1518.749	-1518.748	-1518.780	105.321
$\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	0.5946	-462.747	-462.746	-462.774	90.867
$\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$	0.7560	-3811.957	-3811.957	-3811.985	93.836

Table 3 introduces the ability of metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd trapped in the  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  through  $\Delta G_{\text{ads}}^\circ$  which is related to the covalent bond between these elements and  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  as a potent detector for soil purification.

The trapping process of metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements including Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd in the  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  is affirmed by the  $\Delta G_{\text{ads}}^\circ$  quantities:

$$\Delta G_{\text{ads}}^\circ = \Delta G_{\text{X} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}}^\circ - (\Delta G_{\text{X-grabbed}}^\circ + \Delta G_{\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}}^\circ); \quad \text{X} = \text{Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, Cd.} \quad (10)$$

The dependence on the size of the atoms during interaction between the adsorbates of the metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements as the electron acceptors and the adsorbent of  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  as an electron donor in the complexes of  $\text{Cr} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Mn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Fe} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{Zn} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ ,  $\text{W} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ , and  $\text{Cd} \leftrightarrow \text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$ . Therefore, the selectivity of the metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements by  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  (atom sensor) can result as:  $\text{Cd} > \text{Zn} > \text{Fe} > \text{Cr} > \text{Mn} \approx \text{W}$  (Table 3). Regarding the resulting data in Table 3, thermodynamic models are thus used to elucidate selectivity based on the Gibbs free energy of each reaction. The more negative the change in the Gibbs free energy, the more favorable the reaction is. Using this understanding, we can predict the product selectivity of these multiple reversible reaction systems.

To reveal the micro/nano mechanism of the adsorption characteristics for anions, a comprehensive investigation can be conducted, which includes ion adsorption experiments, thermodynamic calculations, and molecular dynamic simulations. The results might indicate that the pH value and concentration of metal cations are the partners in determining anions' adsorption capacity. Furthermore, elevated temperature not only promotes the thermal movement of ions but also decreases the cation concentration and pH value. Besides, to prevent dissociation and volatilization, nitrogen overpressures are required during processing and/or operation at higher temperatures.

#### 4. Conclusion

Metal nanoclusters are a type of ultrasmall nanomaterials with unique physicochemical properties. Novel nanocomposites with exciting new and sometimes exotic properties can be created by combining metal NCs with other functional materials, greatly expanding the range of possible applications.  $\text{B}_5\text{N}_{10}\text{-nc}$  can capture metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements from soil

because of electrostatic interactions between metal, metalloid and nonmetal elements and B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc. The thermochemistry and electromagnetic parameters of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd adsorbed B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc has been illustrated by the DFT method. The consequences have defined that Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd trapped in B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc are relatively fixed, with the most stable adsorption site in the center of the B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc system. Catching Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd in the B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc happens due to the chemisorption phenomenon. The n-grabbing behavior can be found in B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc after the adsorption of Cr, Mn, Fe, Zn, W, and Cd. The work function of B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc has remarkably exhibited the transition metals adsorption with the maximum amount for the Cd > Zn > Fe > Cr > Mn ≈ W -adsorbed B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc system. However, a more detailed examination of metal solutions and biomass characteristics can be estimated for the proper understanding of the ionic competition effects. Moreover, it is proposed that transition metals-adsorbed can be employed to design and progress the optoelectronic specification of B<sub>5</sub>N<sub>10</sub>-nc for inventing photoelectric instruments. Soil science knowledge and research significantly contribute to food and nutritional security, human well-being, nature conservancy, and global peace and harmony. Achieving critical SDGs by 2030 can be facilitated by soil restoration and sustainable management.

### Acknowledgments

In successfully completing this paper and its research, the author is grateful to Kastamonu University.

### Author Contributions

The author did all the research work for this study.

### Competing Interests

The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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