

Heterogeneous photo-Fenton oxidation of methylene blue solution using Fe(II)-montmorillonite calcinated clay catalyst

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3rd International Electronic Conference on Applied Sciences

Session L. Student Session

1 – 15 December 2022

Introduction

Contributes to fulfilling the basic living (clothing) requirements of human life;



The wastewater discharged from textile dyeing industry contains a total of 72 toxic chemicals, out of which 30 chemicals cannot be removed by waste treatment processes;



Formation of many types of cancers of different organs such as bladder, spleen, liver and normal aberrations in model organisms and chromosomal deformities in mammalian cells;

Textille dyes are characterized by high color density, high concentration of recalcitrante organics and pH and high turbidity.



Textiles wastewater treatment technology: A review

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CRITICAL REVIEWS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2017, VOL. 47, NO. 19, 1836–1876 https://doi.org/10.1080/10643389.2017.1393263



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Biological methods for textile dye removal from wastewater: A review

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Review article

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Textile dye factory



River polluted by textile dyes





Mechanism of the heterogeneous photo-Fenton process





The aim and novelty of this work is:

(1) to develop a new catalyst using a montmorillonite clay as a base material, to degrade a textile dye



Wavelength (nm)

RPM

6





- Agitation at 300 RPM/ 100°C;
- Agitate untill all water is evapoarted



Characterization of Fe-BC catalyst

- The FTIR analysis (Figure 1(a)) showed similar peaks between the Na-Mt and Fe(II)-Mt. However, the Fe(II)-Mt reveled a significant structural change, with the disappearance of a peak at 1103.28 cm⁻¹ and the appearance of a new peak at 528.49 cm⁻¹.
- The XRD patterns of both Na-Mt and catalyst Fe(II)-Mt are shown in Figure 1(b), and the crystallographic parameters were evaluated by measuring the basal reflexions in the plane dhkl 001. The data reveled a significant shift associated with the reflection d001, from 14.01 Å to 9.92 Å, confirming the structural modifications that occurred on the Fe(II)-Mt after the calcination.



Figure 1. Analysis of Na-Mt and Fe(II)-Mt by (a) FTIR and (b) X-ray diffraction.

Results and discussion



Figure 2. Removal of MB by (a) variation of AOPs, (b) variation of pH (3.0 - 7.0), (c) variation of Fe(II)-Mt catalyst concentration (0.25 2.0 g/L) and (d) variation of H2O2 concentration (2.0 - 16.0 mM).

- In Figure 2(a), six different AOPs were tested, with the following conditions: pH = 3.0, [Fe(II)-Mt 0.5M] = 0.5 g/L, [H₂O₂] = 4 mM, [MB] = 0.16 mM, radiation = UV-C (254 nm), time = 25 min;
- heterogeneous Fenton and photo-Fenton were applied, with results showing a MB removal of 78.6 and 88.7%. Clearly, the catalyst can convert the H₂O₂ and generate HO• radicals. This effect is enhanced with the application of UV radiation, thus heterogeneous photo-Fenton was selected as the best AOP;
- The pH was varied from 3.0 to 7.0 (Figure 2(b)). Results showed a MB removal of 88.7, 90.5, 96.1 and 94.2%, respectively for pH 3.0, 4.0, 6.0 and 7.0;
- The results in Figure 2(c) showed a MB removal of 82.6, 96.1, 99.7 and 99.7%, respectively for 0.25, 0.50, 1.0 and 2.0 g/L. As the catalyst concentration increased from 0.25 to 1.0 g/L, the production of HO• radicals increased, due to a higher content of Fe²⁺ present in solution;
- The H_2O_2 concentration was varied from 2.0 to 16.0 mM to access the effect of the oxidant concentration in heterogeneous photo-Fenton (Figure 2(d)). The results showed that the removal of MB was independent from the concentration of H_2O_2 .

Results and discussion

Catalyst reuse



Figure 3. (a) Catalyst stability, (b) Fe²⁺ leaching concentration for 3 consecutive cycles.

- 3 consecutive cycles were performed. The results in Figure 3(a) shows a MB removal of 99.7, 99.5 and 96.3%, respectively for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd cycles;
- The leaching concentration was determined during the 3 cycles (Figure 3(b)). These results showed a high Fe²⁺ release during the first 5 min, decreasing its concentration from 5 to 25 min;
 - The final Fe²⁺ concentration values were observed to be far below the European Eco-nomic Community standards for discharge of treated waters 2 mg L⁻¹.



Based in the results, it is concluded:

(1) that calcination of montmorillonite clays does not affect their structural integrity and allows the incorporation of Fe²⁺



(2) that the heterogeneous photo-Fenton is the most efficient process in MB degradation



(3) that the catalyst can be reused for 3 consecutive cycles, decreasing the treatment costs and the iron is reabsorbed after each cycle

Acknowledgements

The authors are grateful for the financial support of the **Project AgriFood XXI**, operation nº NORTE-01-0145-FEDER-000041, and to the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT) for the financial support provided to **CQVR** through UIDB/00616/2020. Ana R. Teixeira also thanks the FCT for the financial support provided through the doctoral scholarship UI/BD/150847/2020.







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