



Novel Sphere CuO/Ag₃PO₄ Nanocomposites with Enhanced Visible Light Photocatalytic Activity for Degradation of Amaranth

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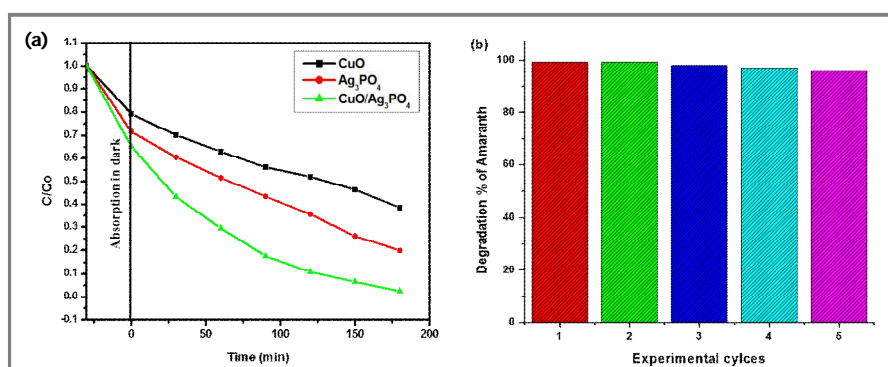
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ABSTRACT

Novel CuO/Ag₃PO₄ nanocomposites have been synthesized via co-precipitation approach and characterized by means of X-ray powder diffraction (XRD), scanning electron microscopy (SEM), energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR), transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and UV-visible diffuse reflectance spectra (UV-Vis-DRS). The as prepared CuO/Ag₃PO₄ has a monoclinic structure with average crystalline size of 25.4 nm. The SEM outcomes suggest that the CuO/Ag₃PO₄ has sphere like structure reveals strong absorption in visible region and it suggests exceedingly great photocatalytic activity for the photodegradation of amaranth under visible light irradiation. The possible mechanism for the extraordinary overall performance of sphere like CuO/Ag₃PO₄ nanocomposites is proposed. The photocatalytic pastime enhancement of CuO/Ag₃PO₄ is related to the efficient separation of electron hole pairs. The impact on various response parameters just like the effect of catalyst concentration, preliminary amaranth concentration, pH and contact time were investigated in detail.

Graphical Abstract



(a) photodegradation curve of amaranth in the presence of CuO, Ag₃PO₄, CuO/Ag₃PO₄ under visible light irradiation and (b) Reusability of CuO/Ag₃PO₄ for the photodegradation of amaranth.

Keywords: CuO/AgPO₄ nanosphere, Photocatalytic activity, Visible light, Amaranth.