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METHYLENE BLUE DEGRADATION UNDER VISIBLE LIGHT EXPOSURE USING TiO₂/Au NANOCOMPOSITES SYNTHESIZED VIA LASER ABLATION OF SOLIDS IN LIQUIDS

Under the premise that TiO₂ and Au nanoparticles exhibit good photocatalytic properties for the degradation of chemical contaminants in water, nanocomposites of TiO₂/Au were synthesized in a 30% H₂O₂ and H₂O solution using the laser ablation of solids in liquids technique. A Ti target was ablated with an energy of 475 mJ/pulse for 120 s, and in the same solution, an Au target was ablated applying the same energy while varying the ablation times, aiming to induce changes in Au concentration for each sample. The solutions containing the nanocomposites, along with samples of TiO₂NPs and AuNPs synthesized under the same parameters used for the nanocomposites, were characterized using UV-VIS spectroscopy, grazing incidence X-ray diffraction (GIXRD), Raman spectroscopy, and transmission electron microscopy (TEM). Utilizing the obtained samples, photocatalytic degradation of methylene blue (MB) dye was conducted using TiO₂/Au nanocomposites and TiO₂NPs in the visible light range, with the incidence of an LED lamp for a total of 150 minutes, measuring solution absorbance with UV-VIS spectroscopy at intervals of 0, 15, 30, 45, and 60 minutes.

Keywords

TiO₂/Au, methylene blue, visible light, photocatalysis, water

Reference

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