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1 Degradation of sulfolane using activated persulfate with UV and UV-Ozone

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10 Highlights

- Mineralization of sulfolane by UVC/persulfate and persulfate/O₃ was studied for the first time.
- 12 Impact of water pH and water composition on degradation of sulfolane was studied.
- Possibility of using UVA/persulfate was investigated.
- The method was verified for treatment of sulfolane in contaminated ground water samples.

15 ABSTACT

This study investigates the degradation of sulfolane in aqueous system by 16 $(NH_4)_2S_2O_8$ /UVC and $(NH_4)_2S_2O_8$ /O₃/UVC. While bubbling O₃ significantly decreased 17 the reaction time, the experimental results in both cases were consistent: firstly, the 18 degradation of sulfolane followed pseudo-first order kinetic models, secondly, the 19 20 reaction rates were affected by persulfate dosages, UV light intensity, initial pH and concentration of carbonate/bicarbonate present. Low concentration of chloride (less 21 then 100 ppm) had no effect on the reaction rate. Application of (NH₄)₂S₂O₈ /O₃/UVA 22 for degradation of sulfolane was also investigated. It was found that for higher sulfolane 23 degradation kinetics, higher concentrations of persulfate was required under UVA 24 irradiation. Finally, $(NH_4)_2S_2O_8/UVC$ was evaluated for its applicability for degradation 25 of sulfolane in groundwater samples. 26

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