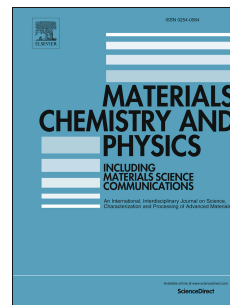


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Zeolite nanorods decorated g-C₃N₄ nanosheets: A novel platform for the photodegradation of hazardous water contaminants

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Abstract

In this study, novel zeolite (H-ZSM-5) nanorods decorated graphitic carbon nitride nanosheets (H-ZSM-5/g-C₃N₄) were fabricated via simple dry synthesis technique. The as-prepared H-ZSM-5/g-C₃N₄ nanocomposite was systematically characterized by XRD, FT-IR, DRS-UV, TEM, SEM and BET and used as a visible light driven photocatalyst for the degradation of hazardous Rhodamine B (RhB) and crystal violet (CV) dyes. Interestingly, the zeolite/g-C₃N₄ nanocomposite could degrade above 99 and 98 % of RhB and CV dyes respectively. The superior photocatalytic activity of H-ZSM-5 doped g-C₃N₄ could be ascribed to the efficient separation of the photogenerated electron-hole pairs. The trapping experiment results portrayed that the superoxide radical anion ($\bullet\text{O}_2^-$) and holes (h^+) are plays major for the degradation of RhB and CV dyes. Based on the trapping experiment results, we proposed a tentative photocatalytic mechanism.

Keywords: Zeolite/g-C₃N₄, Rod-like structure, photodegradation, charge separation, Mechanism.

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