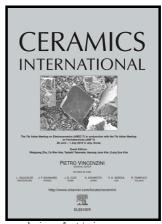
Author's Accepted Manuscript

Graphene/Fe₃O₄ nanocomposite: interplay between photo-Fenton type reaction, and carbon purity for the removal of methyl orange

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www.elsevier.com/locate/ceri

PII: S0272-8842(17)31856-4

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2017.08.157

Reference: CERI16111

To appear in: Ceramics International

Received date: 28 June 2017 Revised date: 28 July 2017 Accepted date: 23 August 2017

Cite this article as: Aqsa Arshad, Javed Iqbal and Ishaq Ahmad, Graphene/Fe $_3O_4$ nanocomposite: interplay between photo-Fenton type reaction, and carbon purity for the removal of methyl orange, *Ceramics International*, http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2017.08.157

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Graphene/Fe₃O₄ nanocomposite: interplay between photo-Fenton type reaction, and carbon purity for the removal of methyl orange

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ABSTRACT: Graphene/Fe₃O₄ nanocomposite obtained via soft chemical method is characterized for its crystallinity, morphology, microstructure, optical properties, vibrational modes and magnetic properties. Graphene sheets decorated with magnetite nanoparticles are employed to investigate their photocatalytic response against methyl orange. The study reveals that the conducting nature of graphene, engineered bandgap and photo Fenton like reaction synergistically govern the efficient photocatalytic activity of nanocomposite. Interestingly, it is observed that methyl orange can be completely removed i.e., upto 99.24% by graphene/Fe₃O₄ nanocomposite, whereas the removal efficiency is 43% for Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles, alone. The presence of graphene endows the delay in charge carriers' recombination whereas, photo Fenton like reaction stimulates the generation of reactive oxygen species. This ultimately leads to the highly enhanced photocatalytic activity and complete removal of methyl orange. The magnetically separable photocatalyst, presented in this work, offers great prospects for fast and economical decontamination of dye polluted water.

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