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Ultrasound-assisted synthesis of metal organic framework for the photocatalytic reduction of 4-nitrophenol under direct sunlight

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Abstract

In this study, the metal organic framework MOF [Zn(BDC)(DMF)] crystal was synthesized *via* ultrasonic irradiation and solvothermal method. The synthesized MOF [Zn(BDC)(DMF)] crystal was characterized by PXRD, FTIR, FESEM-EDX, TGA, UV-DRS and BET. The catalytic activity of MOF [Zn(BDC)(DMF)] was investigated by 4-nitrophenol (4-NP) degradation under direct sunlight irradiation. The influence of various degradation parameters such as initial 4-NP concentration, dosage, pH and H₂O₂ concentration were investigated. The results indicated that the synthesized MOF [Zn(BDC)(DMF)] exhibited strong photocatalytic activity in the presence of NaBH₄ under sunlight irradiation and the reduction of 4-NP to 4-aminophenol (4-AP) completed within 10 min. The study provides the synthesized MOF [Zn(BDC)(DMF)] crystal can be used as a high performance catalyst for the treatment of dyes in wastewater.

Keywords: Metal organic framework, Ultrasound, photocatalytical reduction, 4-nitrophenol, 4-aminophenol.

Introduction

In recent years, water pollution increases due to hazardous waste and toxic organic pollutants. Nowadays the amount of waste discharged into water is a serious problem in the modern world [1]. Particularly, the phenolic compounds and their derivatives are more stable and causes water pollution when they are discharged directly into the water, without proper treatment [2–4]. Compared to existing pollutants, phenol and its derivatives are very steady

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