
Degradation of the anti-inflammatory piroxicam using a bismuth titanate/cadmium sulfide photoanode as an optimized photo-electrocatalytic mineralization strategy based on a factorial design

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Considering the impact that emerging contaminants can cause to the environment, it is essential to develop new environmental remediation strategies for several target compounds, such as the anti-inflammatory piroxicam. Piroxicam belongs to the group of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, commonly used in the treatment of chronic diseases[1]. In this work, a full factorial design was used as a method optimization strategy, with the construction of a degradation model. For this purpose, a photoanode based on FTO/Bi₄Ti₃O₁₂/CdS was constructed and applied in the photoelectrocatalytic degradation of piroxicam. The 2⁴ factorial design, totaling 16 experiments, considered the following variables: support electrolyte (v₁), pH (v₂), pollutant concentration (v₃) and working potential (v₄). The results showed that the best experimental condition promoted a degradation rate higher than 90.0 % in 120 minutes, with a pseudo-first order constant of $3.02 \times 10^{-2} \text{ min}^{-1}$. Data analysis indicated that the concentration of piroxicam and the pH of the solution are the variables that most influence the efficiency of the compound degradation.

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References:

1. Feng, L., et al., *Evaluation of process influencing factors, degradation products, toxicity evolution and matrix-related effects during electro-Fenton removal of piroxicam from waters*. Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering, 2019. 7(5): p. 103400.