A Review on Diverse Bimetallic Nanoparticles and Their Innovative Roles in Degrading Dyes

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Abstract: Water is a vital for all living organism, unfortunately it is being polluted and degraded in quality due to rise in industrial waste. The rise of industrialization has brought about significant adverse effect on human life causing them different kind of diseases due to that contaminated water which may include various dyes, heavy metals and organic pollutants. Interestingly bimetallic nanoparticles which comprise two distinct metals elements have proven more effective for dye treatment due to synergetic features. Bimetallic are to be a most promising class of materials that are often used for removal of contaminates detected in wastewater. Their applications extend to environmental challenges such as nitrate removal, dye degradation, organic pollutants and heavy metal elimination. In this review, we explored different kinds of bimetallic nanoparticles and their effectiveness in degrading dyes, analyzing their efficiency in terms of percentage degradation.

Keywords: Dye degradation, bimetallic nanoparticles, nanotechnology, heavy metals.

Introduction: Earth possess an ample supply of water, makes it one of the most plentiful natural resource. Although earth's water is plentiful, merely around 1% of it is intended towards human consumption. ¹ The WHO estimates that Above 760 million persons lacked access to safe drinking water.² In regions wherever it is accessible, the price of drinking water is increasing due to the rising prices of energy, increasing population including Environmental challenges also such as climate issues.³ The primary issue in the chain of water supply is the contamination of freshwater sources caused by diverse organic and inorganic pollutants.⁴ Addressing concerns through wastewater and drinking water treatment is possible, but traditional methods prove inadequate in fully eliminating emerging contaminants and meeting rigorous water standards.⁵ Moreover, modern waste water treatment technologies have a number of imperfections including high energy, poor pollutant removal, and generating of toxic sludge.⁶ Though commonly used biological waste water treatment is typically inefficient, limited by presence of non biodegradable contaminant, and sometimes toxics to microorganism due to certain toxic substances.⁷Physical methods like filtering can eliminate pollutants by changing one phase into another, but this results in highly concentrated sludge that is hazardous and challenging to dispose off.^{8,9} Thus, the efficient reuse of wastewater in the recovery of water, minerals, or energy is fast becoming a necessary focal point owing to

the fact that extended various pollutants are emerging and threatening the integrity of water, of which dye effluents have proven to be one of the major and common felons.¹⁰

Man has employing dyes for wide range of applications since the beginning of time, including use in textile, paints, medicines and in others industries. The exposures of dyes to the aquatic environments has, unfortunately lead to the negative effects like inhibition of photosynthesis, carcinogenicity, increase in biochemical and chemical oxygen demand, mutagenticity etc.¹¹ Synthetic dyes play a crucial role in important sectors like leather, textiles and paper industries due to their ability to impart colour. After fulfilling their intended use, a majority of dyes are disposed of without proper consideration, often ending up in environmental water sources. Almost about 50% of dye effluents present in the environment originates from textile industry. Although the specific volume of dye effluent discharged by the textile industry into the environment is unclear, it can be asserted that quantity is considerable enough to pose notable environmental challenges. Among various industries that use dye, the textile sector is reported to be the largest consumer of dyestuffs, utilizing approximately 10,000 tons annually on a global scale.¹² Extensive use of dyestuffs in different textile processes leads to the production of substantial volume of wastewater containing dyes.

Moreover, textile industries generate a significant volume of dye effluent, primarily attributed to their substantial water needs. Dye effluents, more commonly recognized as di waste water is abundant in various dangerous chemicals. Dye effluents pose a threat to the well being of animals and humans due to their inherent toxicity. Identifying water bodies with dye effluent is simple because the colour is the clear indicator.¹³ The existence of dye waste in water sources is regarded as inappropriate since water is necessary for daily activities such as cooking, bathing, washing and drinking for both animals and plants. In the present days, extraction of dye molecules from water sources is becoming an environmental problem as well as challenge.¹⁴ The adverse effect mentioned has compelled the research community to continually explore environmentally friendly techniques.¹⁵

In this review we will discuss about the how nanotechnology will help us out in the elimination of several pollutants such as dyes which are discarded by various industries and stop to harming the aquatic and human life both. Nanotechnology's progress has shown an immense potential in effectively addressing the removal of various dyes present in the water by the usage of nanoparticles.

Dyes serve as infamous agents

Dyes are vivid compounds designed to add colour to being materials like fabrics, paper or any surface capable of being coloured. These are the colour agents that penetrate fibres and resist removal through washing with water, detergent or exposure to light.¹⁶,¹⁷ Dyes consist of coloured organic compounds

characterized by functional groups like auxochromes and chromophoric groups.¹⁸ Different dyes of dyes are employed to colour various substrates. Acid dyes find common application in the dyeing of modified acrylics, nylon wool and silk. Acid dyes are used in food, paper, leather and cosmetics. The four major categories of these dyes are anthraquinone, nitro, azine and azo dyes.¹⁹ Methyl orange, acid blue are the acid dyes. Basic dyes can be used for modified polyesters, nylons, as well in medicine and paper industry. These types of dyes are water soluble and yields coloured cations and are called as Cationic dyes.²⁰ The examples of basic dyes are malachite green, crystal violet, basic red 46 and methylene blue.

Significance of dye removal

An industry that uses dyes typically kept dye effluent as an industrial waste once the dyes have served their role in colouring materials. Subsequently these waste products are discharged into water bodies; transformed cleared water into polluted coloured water. Before discharging dye waste water into the environment, these industries should undertake the necessary measures to treat the water. Environmentalist and public find water pollution caused by the presence of dyes unbearable, considering them as harmful and toxic substances. Periodically, concentrated dye effluents with elevated temperature and PH are discharged promptly after the process of dyeing. This process will interfered the oxygen transfer mechanism and the self purification process of water bodies in the environment.²¹

After being used and released back into the environment, these effluent pores pose threat to ecosystem by polluting water sources and rendering them unsuitable for use. The combination of dye waste with natural water sources not only generates foul odour but also presents an unpleasant sight for observer. Textile effluents can pose threat to terrestrial life, starting with aquatic plants and animals.²², 23 As dye waste mixes with water sources , the water's turbidity rises because the effluents, with their lower density, tends to create a visible layer above the water sources. This obstructs the penetration of sunlight for underwater process such as photosynthesis and respiration, leading to cessation of life beneath the water. 24 , 25

Soil productivity will suffer additional harm if dye waste finds way into forests or fields, causing the clogging of soil pores.²⁶ People in the rural areas and native groups that depend upon rivers for their water requirements may inadvertently ingest polluted water if the water source is depleted or contaminated with harmful substances leading to illness. ²⁷ Discharging dye effluents into the environment only serves to progressively harm the ecosystem and diminish public health concerns over time.

Exposure of dye effluent with skin can lead to the skin irritation. When these dye effluent comes into the contact of eyes, it can lead to eye burns or permanent injuries, affecting both humans and animals.²⁸

The chemicals from dumped dye effluents in water supplies can evaporate in the environment. Inhaling these vapours may cause symptoms such as difficulty in breathing.²⁹ Consumption of these toxics dyes can cause various health problems like mouth burns, mouth nausea, sweating, and vomiting.³⁰, ³¹ dyes are traditional carcinogenic and enduring heath repercussions for both an individual and an unborn child. Hence, it is crucial to treat waste water containing harmful dye effluents to avert its detrimental effects on water reserves, wildlife and human well being.^{32, 33}

Industries that discharge dye containing waste water should commence efforts to mitigate the adverse impact they impose on environment and living organism. In addition to researchers striving to remove dye waste water from the surroundings, industries utilizing dyes should also put concerted effort to prevent the discharge of dye contaminated waste water into the environment. Industries using dyes should cease contributing to pollution and instead implement effective dye treatment plans.

The revelation indicates that these dyes have potential to instigate chromosomal mutations leading to cancerous tumours, elevate biochemical oxygen demand in aquatic ecosystem, reduce the development of photosynthetic organism, and disrupt the ecological system as well as fundamental ecological networking.³⁴ These harmful dye effluents possess carcinogenic, neurotoxin and mutagenic properties, posing a swift heart to the water quality of bodies within a moment.³⁵

Hence there is an urgent need to treat the waste water and make the water free from dye effluents which in respect increase the life period of humans and of aquatic too. Nanoparticles are to be a most promising class of materials that are broadly used for the removal of pollutants like dyes found in wastewater.

Nanotechnology

The study of material at the microscopic level called nanotechnology. The fundamental component of nanotechnology is nanoparticles.³⁶ The size of Nanoparticles is in between 1 to 100 Nano meter and they are generally composed of metal, metal oxides, carbon and exhibits unique properties.³⁷ Nanoparticles made of metals particularly those of noble metals are more efficient than several types of nanoparticles and this is because that metal based nanoparticles have high stability, more compatible and can be produced at large scale for the applications in environment.³⁸Instead of having such properties, metal based nanoparticles still needs to improve due to toxicity, size, and chemical stability.³⁹ Nanoparticles like zero-valet iron^{40} and aluminium have demonstrated effectiveness in eliminating water contaminants includes heavy metals, dyes and various organic pollutants. However, there are certain drawbacks to these monometallic materials includes poor stability as a result of leaching , a gradual decline in productivity, a limited pH range and low reusability.⁴¹ It was successfully discovered that bimetallic nanoparticles which combine two different metals elements have applications for getting out these problems and enhancing the efficiency of nanomaterial both through their unique metallic properties and through the new qualities brought by the synergistic effect.⁴²Bimetallic nanoparticles have drawn more interest recently because of their distinct physical characteristic such as quantum effect, mobility and larger dimensions as well as their thermal, chemical, optical and magnetic qualities.^{43,44,45} Bimetallic nanoparticles are the greatest

option for effective dye water treatment since their synthesis biogenetically preserves their sustainable and environmentally friendly properties. There are different kinds of bimetallic nanoparticles that have been synthesized and for the degradation of various dyes present in the wastewater. These nanoparticles are synthesized when two different metals are combined with each other in a reaction vessel under ideal conditions that results in variety of morphological and structural changes.⁴⁶ There are many different forms of bimetallic nanoparticles that can be possible which may include copper- based, nickel based, silver based, gold based, palladium and platinum based bimetallic nanoparticles. There are two methods used for the formation of bimetallic nanoparticles which include breaking of bulk material into small particles or generating the small particles from their own particles. There are two methods named as top down approach and bottom up approach that involves mixing of two different metal precursors under favourable conditions to which reducing and stabilizing agent is added.⁴⁷

The production of bimetallic nanoparticles may be classified within three methods such as physical, biological and chemical methods. There are different bimetallic combinations that have been reported in various research papers that are listed below:

Exploring a spectrum of bimetallic nanoparticles covering various metal composition elucidate their unique ability to reduced various dyes each exhibiting distinct degradation efficiency with its reduced time

Different approaches for removal of dyes

Dye removal methods were primarily limited to initial water purification steps such as sedimentation and equalisation, as there were no established discharge limits for dye effluents.⁹³ Due to discharge of dye's effluent standards were executed, prompting enhancements through the introduction of more efficient dye elimination techniques like dye degrading filter beds and active sludge processes.⁹⁴ Currently, many researchers are actively engaged in seeking an optimal approach for removing dyes, with the goal of enabling the recovery and reuse of waste water that contain dyes.⁹⁵ The approaches currently employed for dye removal can be classified into three main types: physical, biological and chemical treatments.

Biological dye removal approach

Most commonly employed and widely employed method for treating dye wastewater is the typical biological approach. Generally acknowledged as conventional approach, mixture of anaerobic and aerobic processes is implemented just before discharging dye effluents into the surrounding.⁹⁶ The selection of these methods as the preferred dye removal technique is primarily based on its cost effectiveness and ease of implementation.⁹⁷ The exclusive use of this treatment proves inadequate in fully eliminating hazardous particles from wastewater generated by textile dyes, leading to the continued presence of coloured water in the environment.⁹⁸ While the conventional addressees the chemical oxygen demand present currently waste water, it doesn't render the water free from dyes or eliminate toxicity. In addition to this technique other conventional biological approaches for dye removal include microbial biomass adsorption, fungal cultures, algae degradation, microbial cultures and the utilization of both pure and mixed cultures.

Several methods exist for eliminating water contaminants like dyes, but due to economic constraints and lengthy processes, the most effective solution for decolourization is the biological methods. In the domain of microorganism, including bacteria and fungi it has been observed that fungi are particularly

effective in decolourizing waste water from textile, leather, and paper making industries. Their utilization is favoured due to factors like accessibility, cost effectiveness, environmental computability and quicker implementation timeframe compared to other methods.⁹⁹

Physical dye removal approach

Physical approach for dye elimination is quite simple that are often achieved through mass transfer mechanism. Physical methods cover coagulation, adsorption, ion exchange and filtration among others. Among the various methods for dye removal, adsorption has shown to highly efficient and affordable. The separation of dye from industrial waste eater effluents is achieved through the utilization of adsorbents like activated carbon. Nevertheless, its widespread application in large scale applications is limited due to cost effectiveness. 100

Adsorption has become a valuable technique for dye elimination due to its remarkable effectiveness in eliminating the wide range of dye substances.¹⁰¹ These methods not only purify the industry waste water but also the drinking water. Conventional methods are inefficient in completely removing synthetic dyes from dye waste water.¹⁰² Thus adsorption becomes one of the optimal methods for dye elimination. The application of the adsorption method to treat dye effluents led to the generation of treated water with superior quality in contrast with other alternative dye elimination methods.¹⁰³ The initial drawback for this method was the high price of the adsorbent, the discovery of inexpensive yet equally effective adsorbents has propelled it to become a globally economical approach for dye removal.¹⁰⁴ Adsorption is a mass transfer procedure in which elements deposit at the interface of two similar or different phases such as gas solid, gas liquid, liquid liquid, and liquid solid.¹⁰⁵, 106 it is a non reactive process where a substance originally exist in liquid or gaseous environment becomes concentrated on a solid surface.¹⁰⁷ This process reduces the amount of dissolved particles in an effluent. The material that describes absorption is termed as adsorbate, while the material employed to perform the absorption is referred to as adsorbent. Adsorption can be achieved through two methods physical sorption and chemical sorption.¹⁰⁸ Generally, adsorption is carried out through physisorption with random deviations where chemisorptions is opted for instead.

Effective dye removal is best achieved in the adsorption process when using porous material.¹⁰⁹, 110 The advantageous characteristic of the adsorption technique is that it is appropriate for pollution control application as it doesn't produce any harmful elements at the end of the process.¹¹¹

Chemical dye removal approach

**These dye removal approaches involve applying chemical principles in the complex process of eliminating dyes. Chemical dye elimination techniques comprise Fenton dye removal, electrochemical

destruction, advanced oxidation process, ozonation, oxidation and ultraviolet radiations. While many chemical dye elimination approaches tend to be expensive when contrasted with physical and biological methods, an unusual occurrence is observed in the case of electrochemical degradation dye removal, which stands out as a more cost effective option. Chemical dye removal techniques are commercially unappealing, required specialized equipment and demand substantial electrical energy.¹¹² The widespread use of chemicals and reagents poses a common challenge for users employing chemical dye removal methods on a large scale.¹¹³ A drawback of this approach is creation of harmful pollutants, marking the conclusion of the chemical dye elimination process and introducing an extra challenge in terms of disposal.¹¹⁴

Conclusion:

The life of an individual has been disturbed due to affected environment that cause so many disease due to rise in industrialization as it releases various dye effluents. These dye effluents not only destroy the human life but also aquatic life too. These dyes Posses the properties like carcinogenic, mutagenic. To remove this problem from the environment, nanotechnology plays a vital role in it. The field of nanotechnology has shown a significant progress in last few years. Nanotechnology have wide application in the field of science including environmental application which includes organic pollutants, presence of heavy metals and var*i*ous dyes that are released by the industries. Nanoparticles as the basic unit of nanotechnology have been discussed with its simple synthesis method. In this review we have discussed about the basic information of dyes and how these dyes are affecting the human life and giving harm to it providing with the solution of bimetallic nanoparticles. These bimetallic nanoparticles show synergism affect and it is the greatest option for effective dye treatment. We have discussed different bimetallic nanoparticles which can reduce the different dyes with its degradation efficiency eliminated by the industries. We have also discussed generalized strategies of.dye removal which has been used for treating the dye waste water.

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