



PROCEEDING

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

"Environmental based on Science Research for a Better Life"

Gedung Seminar E University of Andalas Padang, Indonesia

hosted by: HIMKA UNAND, IKA HIMKI INDONESIA &

DEPARTMENT of CHEMISTRY, UNIVERSITY of ANDALAS

ISBN 978 - 602 - 18475 - 0 - 3



October

8th

2017

International Seminar on Environmental Science 2011

Environment Based on Science Research for Better Life

ISBN

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ISBN 978 – 602 – 18475 – 0 -3



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Preparation of Magnetic Nanoparticle $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ by Coprecipitation Method and Photocatalytic Properties

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ABSTRACT

Preparation of magnetic nanoparticle $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ has been conducted by coprecipitation method using metal nitric and titanium isopropoxide (TIP) as precursors. The powder X-ray diffractometer (XRD) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM) were used to characterize the structure and morphology of the particle. The magnetic properties were measured by vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM). In the XRD patterns, the peak of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ was calcinated at 550°C has high intensity of TiO_2 anatase. From SEM image, it indicates that the particle was prepared using propanol solvent has the most homogeneous surface. The magnetic properties analysis shows that the particle has magnetic properties. Photocatalytic activity of samples in response to visible light irradiation was determined by degradation of rhodamine B. It shows that the particle was calcinated at 550°C has a good activity.

Key words: $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ particle, coprecipitation method, magnetic and photocatalytic properties

1. INTRODUCTION

TiO_2 powders have been commonly used as white pigments from ancient times. They are inexpensive, chemically stable and harmless, and have no absorption in the visible region. Therefore, they have a white color. However, the chemical stability of TiO_2 holds only in the dark. Instead, it is active under UV light irradiation, inducing some chemical reactions. Such activity under sunlight was known from the flaking of paints and the degradation of fabrics incorporating TiO_2 . Titania-coated magnetic particles have been proposed to solve the difficulty of photocatalyst separation from the treated water by applying an external magnetic field. TiO_2 anatase has the best photocatalytic activity. This is because the structure of anatase has a band gap of 3.2 eV which is active on UV light irradiation. It is a disadvantage for this photocatalytic when used in sunlight because TiO_2 can only use 3-5% of sunlight. The doping process of TiO_2 with NiFe_2O_4 metal to decrease the band gap of TiO_2 can be conducted by coprecipitation method. The advantages of this particle has magnetic properties so that it can be recycled when it was used as photocatalyst in degradation of the organic compound in waste water.

2. RESULT

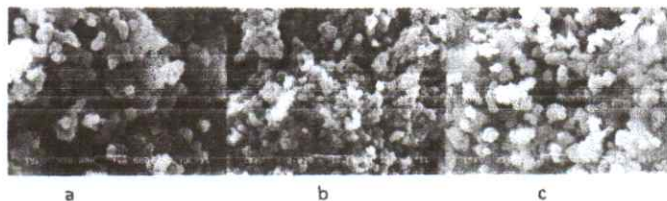


Figure 1. SEM image of nanoparticle $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ in a) ethanol, b) propanol, c) isopropanol solvent

The SEM photographs of the $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ powders solved with at ethanol, propanol and isopropanol are given in Fig. 1. The TEM photographs show that propanol solvent give a good distribution particle with little aggregated particulate. The size of the particle with the propanol solvent are relatively have a same size if compared with the ethanol and isopropanol solvent. The EDX analysis (fig. 2) give information about the composition of this nanoparticle. This nanoparticle has 38,66%, O 33,52%, C 26,93%, Fe 0,7%, Ni 0,2%.

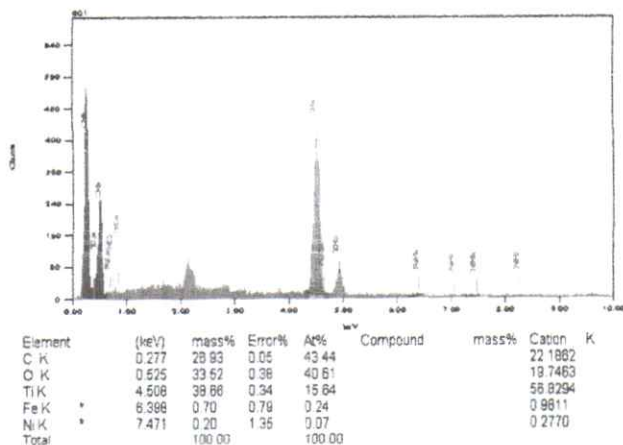


Figure 2. EDX analysis of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$

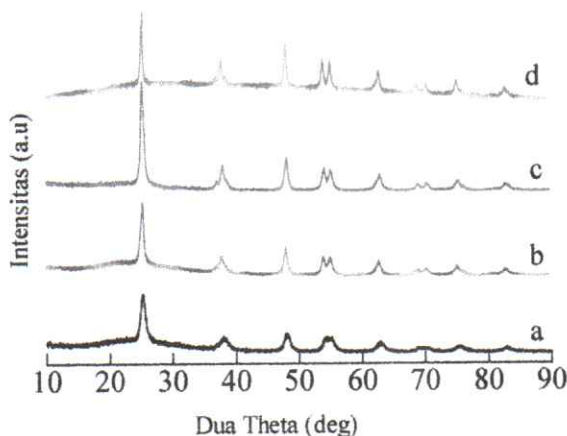


Figure 3. XRD patern $\text{TiO}_2/\text{NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ (1 : 0,01)with variation Calcination temperatur a) 450°C b) 500°C c) 550°C d) 600°C

The XRD patterns of the $\text{TiO}_2/\text{NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ powders calcined at different temperatures are shown in Fig. 3. The highest peaks of anatase at $2\theta = 25.3^\circ$ are correlated with the JCPDS No. 21-1272. The diffraction peaks are continuously getting sharper with increasing calcination temperature, which reveals that the grain size become larger with increasing calcination temperature. The mean size of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ calcined at 450, 500, 550, and 600°C for 2 h, respectively, can be calculated by the Scherrer formula, and the phases and the mean size are listed in Table 1. Table 1 shows that the mean size of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ become larger and larger when the calcination temperature increased from 450 to 600 °C. The XRD patterns of the $\text{TiO}_2/\text{NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ with the ratio concentration 1 : 0,1. shown in Fig. 4. It can be seen that the XRD pattern show the highest peaks of TiO_2 anatase $2\theta = 25.3^\circ$ and the peaks of NiFe_2O_4 at $2\theta = 35,68$ are correlated with JCPDS No. 21-1081.

Tabel 1 : the Crystallite size of $\text{TiO}_2/\text{NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ (1 : 0,01) with variation Calcination temperatur

Calcination temperatur	Crystallite size
450	8,067
500	8,067
550	9,786
600	13,714

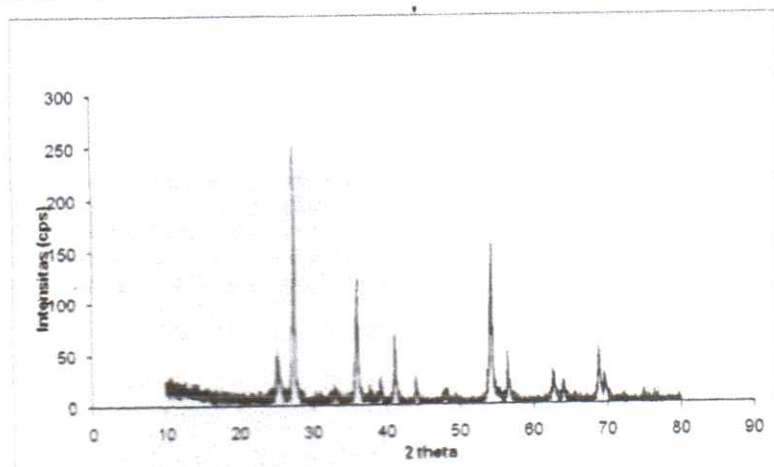


Figure 4. XRD pattern of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ (1 : 0,1)

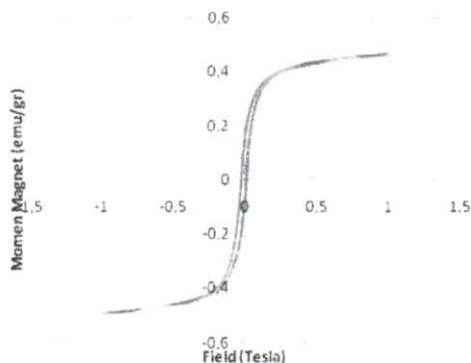


Figure 5. magnetic properties of $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_3$ (1:0,1)

Figure 5 shows the room temperature hysteresis loop of the coprecipitated $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_3$ and as can be seen the saturation magnetization of the nanopowders is 0,462 emu/g and -0,497 emu/g. With the value of coercive -0,0206 T and the value of remanent 0,0194 emu/g. From this hysteresis loop the properties of this nanoparticle is paramagnetic because the value of saturation magnetization ≤ 92 emu/g. The value of remanent and coercive approach 0.

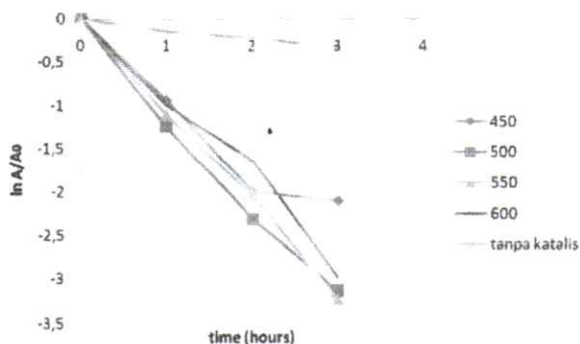


Figure 6. Graph $\ln(A/A_0)$ for degradation rodamin B by $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_3\text{O}_4$ with variation calcination temperature

The degradation result of rhodamin B irradiation in sunrise is shown in fig. 6. For the purposes of comparison, the photocatalytic degradation of rhodamin B was carried out using the catalyst $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ with the variation of calcination temperature. These results are also shown in Fig. 6. These experimental results show that the $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ with the calcination temperature 550°C has greatly higher photocatalytic activity after irradiation in sunrise at 3 hours if compared with the $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ in other calcination temperature.

3. CONCLUSION

In order to develop efficient photocatalysts working with sunlight, $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ nanoparticles were synthesized by coprecipitation method. The SEM image shown propanol solvent used in synthesis produces more homogeneous nanoparticles than ethanol and isopropanol. From EDX graph we know the composition of this nanoparticle. The characterization using XRD shows the highest intensity of anatase read at 2θ : 25.3° of particle was calcinated at 550°C . In XRD peaks with variation concentration show the peak of the metal NiFe_2O_4 at 2θ : 35.68° . Characterization using VSM shows the small value of coercive and remanent so this material has magnetic properties. The catalytic activity of these particles was determined by degradation of rhodamin B indicating that $\text{TiO}_2\text{-NiFe}_2\text{O}_4$ nanoparticles that were calcinated at 550°C gave the largest percent degradation after irradiation by the sun for 3 hours.

4. REFERENCES

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