



## Synthesis and Photodegradation of Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Pb-Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Nanoparticles and Their Kinetic Study

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**Abstract:** The green synthesis method synthesized the bismuth oxide and lead-doped bismuth oxide nanoparticles using *Ferula Asafoetida* leaves extract. The lead-doped bismuth oxide showed greater degradation efficiency than undoped bismuth oxide. This greater efficiency was due to decreases in the band gap energy between the valence band and the conduction band of the metal oxide and reduced the chances of electron-hole pair recombination with the metal oxide catalyst. The synthesized nanoparticles were characterized by TGA, SEM, FT-IR, EDX, XRD, and UV- visible Spectrometer. XRD diffraction of Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles reflected a strong and sharp peak at 32.8° shows that Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles are in crystalline phase. The crystallite size of Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles is 13.433 nm, and Pb-doped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is 9.6 nm, calculated from the Debye-Scherrer equation. The synthesized Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles are round in shape with average size of ~ 90-100 nm While Pb doped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is ~ 75 f- 100 nm. The EDX spectra showed no additional peak for any impurities. The degradation rate of Malachite Green dye (MG) increased with the increase in contact time and temperature, while it decreased with increasing dye initial concentration and pH. Initially, the degradation efficiency of the bismuth oxide catalyst is increased with increasing catalyst amount, but after a certain amount of catalyst, it started decreasing as the catalyst amount was further increased. The irradiation time on photodegradation is deliberate, keeping other parameters steady at catalyst quantity 0.01 g at specific reaction conditions. Moreover, the dye showed an increase in degradation at 50 °C. The utmost degradation of 92% was observed for lead-doped bismuth oxide (Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and 76% for undoped bismuth oxide (Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>).

**Keywords:** Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles, Debye-Scherrer equation, dye degradation.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Nanotechnology has grown to be the most dynamic area of research in various fields of science, having an objective to determine the recompenses of the nano world for the betterment of society (1). Scientists use fine powders for various purposes, such as manufacturing, calculating, and characterization. Practical applications of nanotechnology are increasing with increasing demand for people. Scientists may also use nanotechnology in cosmetics (2), catalysis (3), medicines (4), and biosensing (5). Nanotechnology has a vital role in

chemistry, fabric science, engineering, and physics (6).

Metallic nanoparticles are more significant than metal factors in the bulk state (7). Many nanoparticles have been manufactured from time to time. These fine powders were used in various applications such as terminals of batteries, catalyzers, and components of diesel (8). Bismuth oxide nanoparticles can be used in antibiotic-resistant pathogens on the atomic, thermal, and land physical properties. Bismuth oxide is used in numerous industries, such as optical electronics (9),

solid oxide fuels (10), and cell optical coating (11). It is widely used in applications such as gas sensors (12), optical technology (13), and microelectronics (14).

The plastic, textile, and pharmaceutical industries mainly add pollutants to the environment. These pollutants destroy or reduce the growth and production of local flora and fauna (15). Dyes released by these industries mainly cause water pollution, which reduces the penetration of sun light to water as sunlight is essential for both aquatic and land, so due to the unavailability of light, the plants are unable to synthesize their food. Dyes have diverse distinctiveness and affinities; for example, methylene blue (MB), congo red dye (CR), methyl orange (MO) dye, malachite green dye (MG), and 4-nitrophenol (4-NP) are natural dyes and pollutants. These dyes have complicated molecular structures and are non-biodegradable (16). The elimination of this pollutant from surroundings is of primary importance. Mostly NPs can be unique and best for removing such harmful substances (17).

The malachite green dye is water soluble cationic dye, green in color and crystalline powder in texture. To reduce water pollution, converting these dyes into non-hazardous forms is essential before they are released into water (18). Textile, pharmaceuticals, and leather industries use Nitro phenol (pollutant) for coloring and chemical synthesis, which pollutes the ecosystem. Nitro phenol and other chemicals move down the soil and contaminate the water. This contaminated water may cause mutation and cancer in living organisms. These cancer-causing pollutants are non-biodegradable by routine methods (19, 20).

Nanoparticles produced from plants are safe because toxic chemicals are not used compared to chemicals and physical procedures used for NPS extraction. Plants offer herbal capping marketers for NPs synthesis (21). Silver nanoparticles use diminishes after the surfacing and common use of antibiotics like insecticides and pesticides, but silver nanoparticles in combination with antibiotics are more efficacious (22). Synthesis of silver nanoparticles is low cost in terms of temperature and pressure. It is also non-toxic owing to its industry utilization plant-based AgNPs have been given unique locations in all fields of technological know-how, mainly in medical drugs inclusive for the remedy of wounds, cuts, scratches, burn up, fungal illnesses and different pores skin associated illness (23) From plant *Trianthema decandra*, gold NPs had been prepared which help in coating objects. The scientist takes more interest in manufacturing Gold Nps because gold can bind with organic molecules easily but have a high-cost value (24). M. Mohammadlou et al. synthesized magnetic iron oxide ( $\text{FeO}_2$ ) NPs from leaves of *Glycosmis Mauritania*. Magnetic iron oxide ( $\text{FeO}_2$ ) NPs are used for various purposes. Synthesis from the plant is non-toxic than physical procedure and chemicals used for its synthesis (3). The research interest of our group is to synthesize nanoparticles using plants

which is easily approachable, non-toxic, cheap, and safe. Scientists have used different plants, but *Ferula asafoetida* is not used until now, so the plant we are interested in is *Ferula asafoetida*.

## 2. EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

### 2.1. Collection of Sample

*Ferula asafoetida* is widely grown naturally in Abbot Abad (Pakistan). The plants were uprooted and Collected at their Mature Stage during March.

### 2.2. Reagents

The chemicals used for the synthesis of nanoparticles were  $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  and  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ . The synthesized nanoparticles degraded the organic dye Malachite green with the chemical formula ( $\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{25}\text{N}_2\text{Cl}$ ). All the chemicals used were of analytical Grade.

### 2.3. Instrumentation

The prepared solutions were thoroughly mixed using a magnetic stirrer (Misong Scientific c., Ito Korea). The obtained precipitates were filtered with the help of Whatman filter paper No. 1 (Millipore Corp., Bedford, Mass). The precipitate was dried in an oven (precision,  $\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ , 0.6 kW). The fully dried precipitates were placed in a muffle furnace at  $200 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$  (Neycraft™ JFF 2000 Furnace) for a few minutes. The samples were placed in UV light box for photocatalytic reactions using an ultra-violet light source. In order to disperse the particles the sample was centrifuged using an ultracentrifugation machine (Daihan Labtech Co. Ltd., Korea). A double beam UV-visible spectrophotometer (UV-1800 240v, Shimadzu Corporation) was used for determination of concentration and wavelength of maximum absorption. For functional group analysis IR spectra were recorded using a spectrophotometer (Perkin Elmer FT-IR spectrometer model 95120) rotary flash evaporator. The surface morphology and elemental composition were confirmed by using FE-SEM (QUANTA FEG 450) and EDX, respectively. The XRD (Bruker-D8 Advanced X-ray diffraction) was used to find out the crystallinity of the synthesized powder.

### 2.4. Preparation of Leaves Extract

Fresh leaves of *Ferula Asafoetida* were washed with doubly distilled water and dried in the shade at room temperature ( $22-25^\circ\text{C}$ ). The dried leaves were then crushed using a commercial blender (TSK-949, west point Furnace). The aqueous solution of powder leaves (1 g/100 mL) was placed in the soxhlet apparatus for 3 hours in solvent for continuous solvent extraction. After that, the extract was filtered, and then the sample was concentrated under a vacuum in a rotary flash evaporator. The concentrated extract was air-dried, taken in an air-tight bottle, and stored for further use.

### 2.5. Synthesis of Bismuth Oxide Nanoparticles

#### 2.5.1. Bismuth oxide Nanoparticles

Bismuth oxide nanoparticles were synthesized by using the green synthesis method. A solution of 0.5 M  $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  was prepared in 100 mL double distilled water, and then 5 mL *Ferula Asafoetida* extract was

added dropwise to the prepared solution. The solution was placed on a magnetic stirrer at a constant stirring of 1200 rpm for 10-15 minutes to homogenize. The particles were placed for 2-3 min in the preheated muffle furnace ( $200 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ ) for combustion, producing bismuth oxide ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ ) nanoparticles. In order to remove impurities, the sample was washed several times with double distilled water. Furthermore, the synthesized nanoparticles were calcinated for 2 hours to attain purity. Finally, the dried bismuth oxide nanoparticles were stored in an air-tight container for further use.

### 2.5.2. Pb-Doped bismuth Oxide Nanoparticles

To synthesize lead-doped bismuth oxide nanoparticles, 0.05M  $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$  was added to 0.5M  $\text{Bi}(\text{NO}_3)_3$  solution and 5 mL *Ferula asafoetida* extract. The solutions were placed on a magnetic stirrer at a constant stirring of 1200 rpm for 10-15 minutes to homogenize. The obtained particles were placed for 2-3 min in the preheated muffle furnace ( $200 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ ) for combustion, resulting in lead-doped bismuth oxide nanoparticles. In order to remove impurities, the sample was washed several times with double distilled water. Furthermore, the synthesized nanoparticles were calcinated for 2 hours to attain purity. Finally, lead-doped bismuth oxide nanoparticles were obtained; the particles were stored in an air-tight container for further use.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1. SEM of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ and Pb- $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ Nanoparticles

The SEM analysis of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is shown in Fig. 1 (a). It is clear from the micrographs that synthesized  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles are in round aggregation form. The average size of the nanoparticles calculated from the AGI method of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is ~ 90-100 nm, while Pb-doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is ~ 75- 100 nm. The surface morphology is clear in the micrograph, and the aggregate of nanoparticles is uniformly distributed. While from

the surface morphology of Pb doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  Fig 1 (b) the lead is small, agglomerating on  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ .

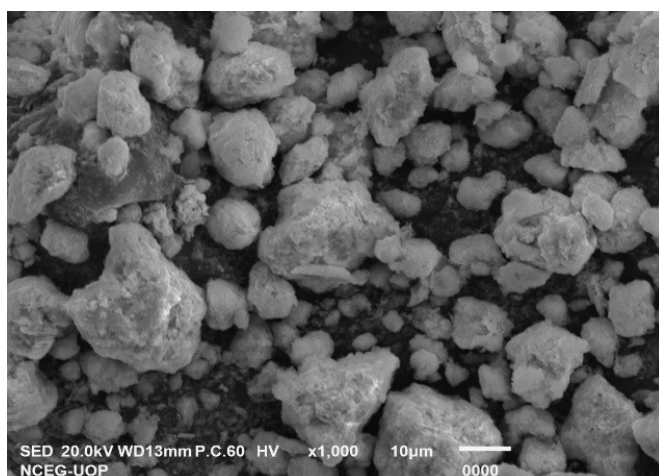
### 3.2. EDX analysis of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ and Pb- $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$

Figure 3.2 (a) and (b) display the elemental composition analysis of lead-doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ , with both elements in oxide form. The mass ratios for Pb, Bi, and O were 23.55, 31.51, and 44.95, respectively, as shown in Figure 4.2(b). Meanwhile, the atomic ratios were 39.84 for Pb, 57.07 for Bi, and 3.09 for oxygen. The EDX spectra did not reveal any additional peaks, indicating the absence of impurities. In contrast, the undoped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ , illustrated in Figure 2 (a), had mass ratios of 13.55 for C, 16.55 for O, and 69.90 for Bi. Correspondingly, the atomic ratios were 45.19 for C, 41.42 for O, and 13.39 for Bi.

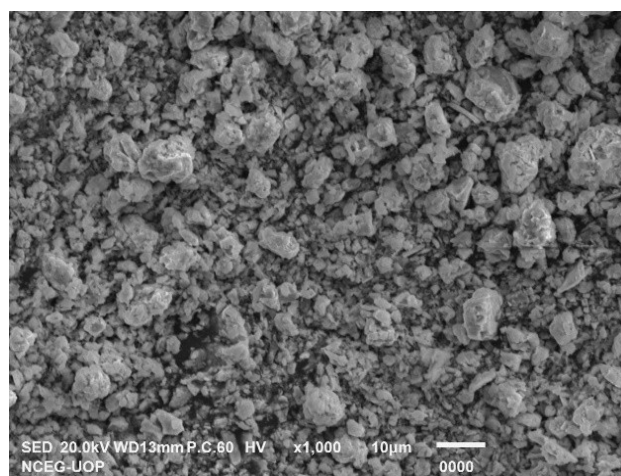
### 3.3. TGA of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ and Pb- $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ Nanoparticles

The thermal stability of pure  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles and  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles doped by Pb were investigated by thermal gravimetric analysis in Figure 3. The thermograms were recorded in the nitrogen atmosphere by heating the samples from 25 to 600  $^\circ\text{C}$ . The TGA of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles was almost stable with a little weight loss over the given temperature range due to the moisture absorption and combined water. Overall weight loss of 2% is due to moisture in a temperature range of 300 to 400  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

The TGA of doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles shows weight loss at three stages. The first stage of weight loss from 100 to 200  $^\circ\text{C}$  is attributed to the volatilization of water molecules from the nanoparticles. The second stage of weight loss from 300 to 400  $^\circ\text{C}$  is attributed to the inorganic compound Pb contains a small amount of  $\text{PbO}_2$ , which is thermally decomposed from  $\text{PbO}_2$  to  $\text{PbO}$ . The third stage of weight loss from 500 to 600  $^\circ\text{C}$  shows excellent thermal stability of Pb nanoparticles (25). This shows the high thermal stability of doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles. The overall stability of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is higher than the doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  at 600  $^\circ\text{C}$ . The total weight loss in pure  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is less than that of doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  (26).

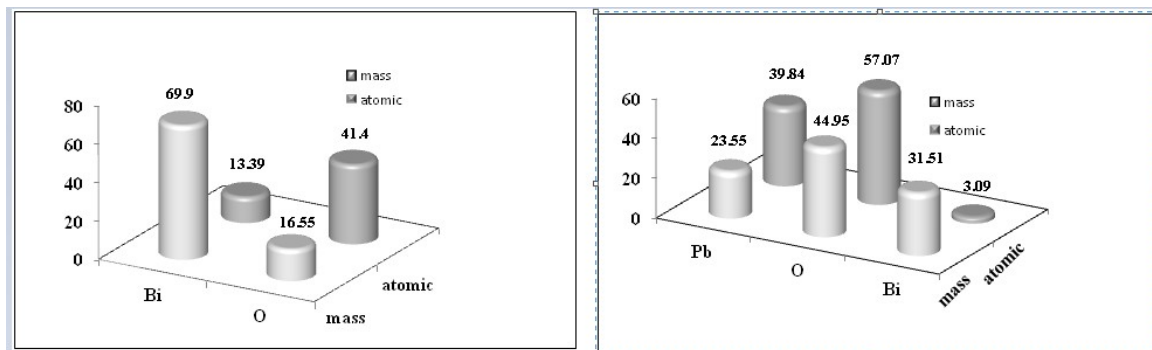


(a)

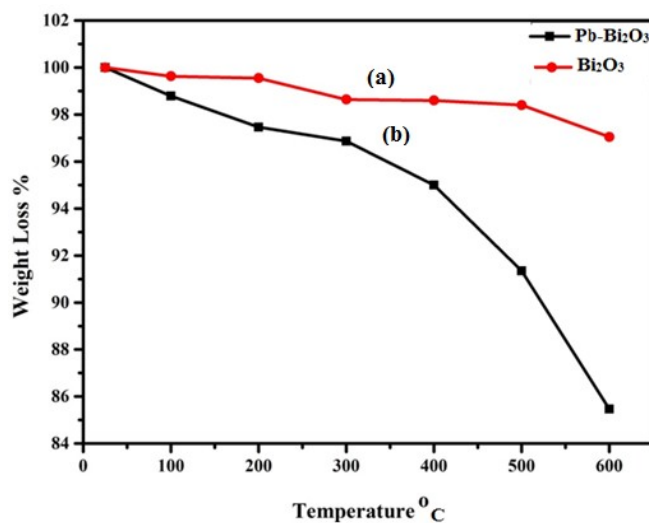


(b)

**Figure 1:** SEM image for (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  Nanoparticles (b) Pb- $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles.



**Figure 2:** EDX analysis of (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  (b)  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  Nanoparticles.



**Figure 3:** TGA of (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  and (b)  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles.

### 3.4. FT-IR of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$

FT-IR spectra help study functional groups in a compound, their molecular interaction, and their molecular geometry. Figure 4 (a) shows the FTIR spectra of the calcined  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles. Generally, the band frequencies within  $1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$  must be accredited to the bond stretching of metal oxides (27). The spectrum in Figure 4(a) at  $3351.07\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is because of hydroxyl bond attraction in the water. The absorption

spectrum obtained  $1600-1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$  is due to the occurrence of organic residue from the plant leaf extract. The peaks lower than  $1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$  showed the presence of nanoparticles (28). Figure 4 (b) shows the absorption spectrum  $675.49\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to the stretching frequency of the Bi-O bond, and for  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is  $465.33\text{ cm}^{-1}$  because of Pb-O stretching (29). The result shows that Pb successfully merged in  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  crystal.

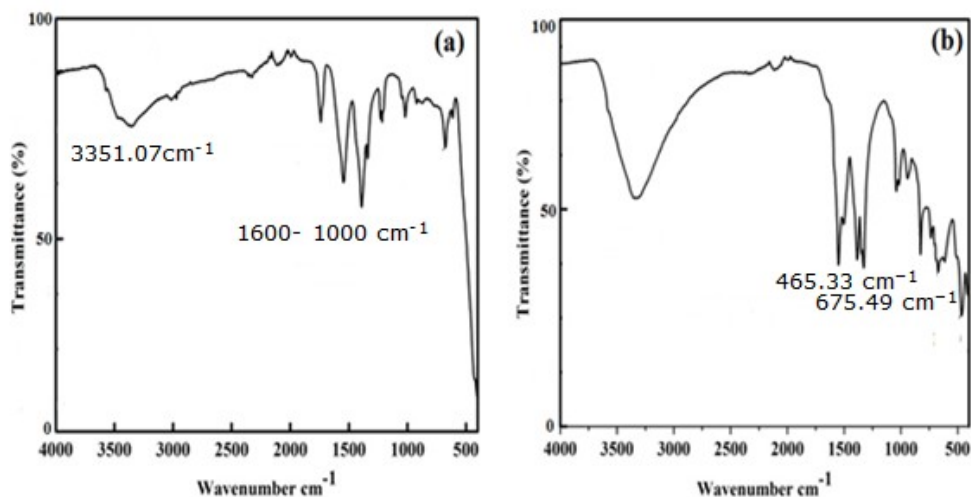


Figure 4: FTIR spectrum of (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  and (b)  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  Nanoparticles.

### 3.5. XRD of $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ Nanoparticles

XRD is the most effective tool for describing the structure and nature of a material. An analytical technique mainly used to identify the crystalline nature of the material. In this technique, an X-ray is bombarded on the crystal. The crystalline properties and purity of the green synthesized  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  NPs were analyzed by X-ray diffraction data collected in the  $2\theta$  range. Fig. 5 (a) shows the XRD spectrum of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ . XRD diffraction of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles gives a strong and sharp peak at  $32.8^\circ$ , which confirms the crystalline nature of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ . The  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles exhibited peaks at  $23.9^\circ$ ,  $29.2^\circ$ ,  $30.3^\circ$ ,  $32.0^\circ$ ,  $47.09^\circ$ ,  $56.8^\circ$ ,  $42.3^\circ$ . Figure 5 (b) sharp peak at  $2\theta = 28.8^\circ$  and  $32.7^\circ$  was observed for  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ . JCPDS-card no -36-034 for  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  JCPDS card no 3-0591. The Debye-Scherrer (Equation 1) was used

to calculate the average crystallite size of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles.

$$D = \frac{k\lambda}{\beta \cos \theta} \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

The average crystallite size is denoted by  $D$ , where  $k$  is the dimensionless shape factor with a value of 0.9 close to unity; it varies depending upon the crystallite's shape  $\lambda$  is the wavelength of the X-ray used, and  $\beta$  is the angle of diffraction at full width at half maximum. The crystallite size of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles is 13.433 nm. The crystallite size of  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles is 9.6 nm Figure 5 (a) shows that X-ray diffraction peaks of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles exhibited reflection peaks at  $32.8^\circ$  of glancing angle. The sharp crystalline peak shows that the nanoparticles are crystalline in structure (30).

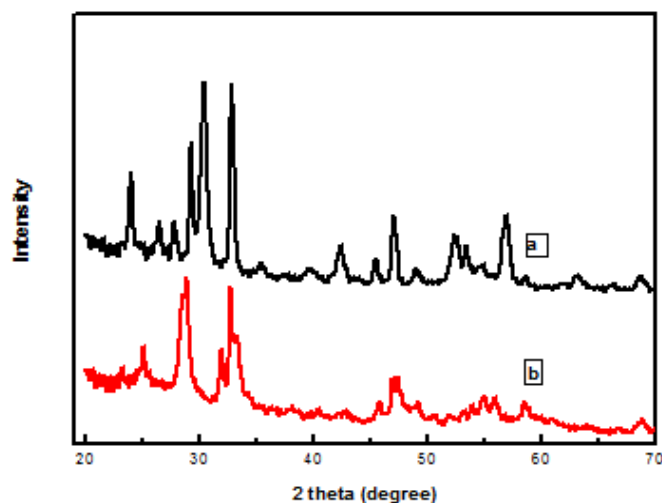


Figure 5: XRD patterns of (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  (b)  $\text{Pb-Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  Nanoparticles.

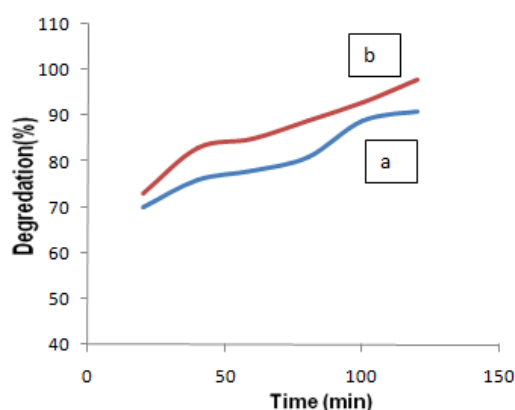
### 3.6. Photocatalytic Activity of Bismuth Oxide Nanoparticles

The photocatalytic activity of bismuth oxide and lead-doped bismuth oxide was studied under UV light to degrade malachite green dye. The effect of various parameters such as catalyst dose, irradiation time, initial dye concentration, pH, and temperature was observed.

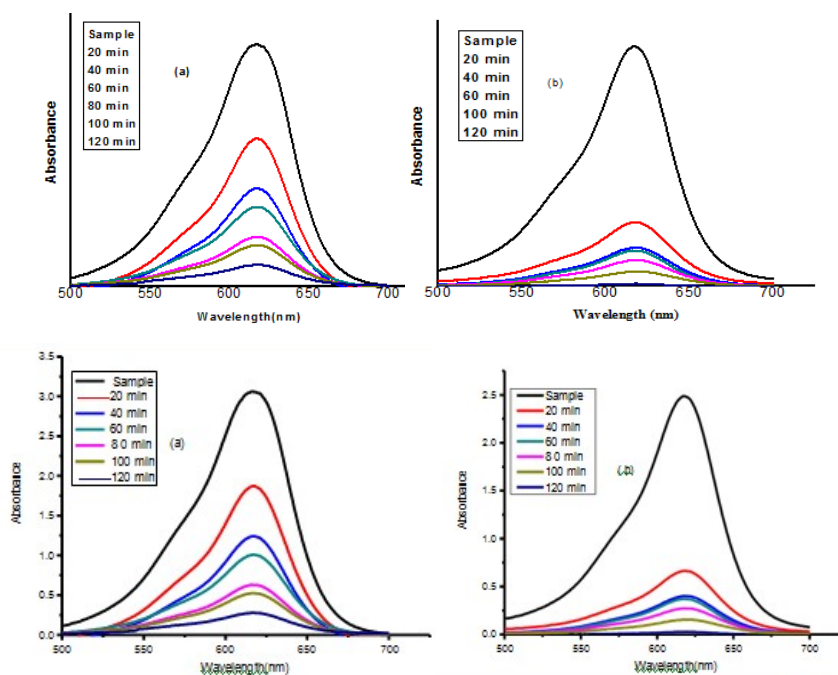
### 3.7. Effect of Irradiation Time

UV light plays a primary role in the photodegradation of malachite green dye. The result showing irradiation time on photodegradation is deliberate, keeping other parameters steady at catalyst

quantity 0.01 g, pH 4, time interval 120 minutes, and dye initial concentration 50 ppm, as shown in Figure 6(a). Irradiation time increases by increasing the degradation activity of bismuth oxide nanoparticles. This may be related to the amount of photo-generated electron-hole pair produced due to the sensitization of photocatalyst nanoparticles (31). Under UV light, dye degradation at different time phases is studied. Figure 6(a) depicts a lead-doped bismuth oxide that shows maximum degradation of 98%. The undoped bismuth oxide showed 91% degradation efficiency under a similar experimental condition, as shown in Figure 6(b).



**Figure 6a:** Effect of irradiation time on photocatalytic degradation of MG dye by (a) lead-doped bismuth oxide ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ ), (b) undoped bismuth oxide at catalyst amount of 0.01 g, pH 4, dye initial concentration of 50 ppm, irradiation time 120 minutes.

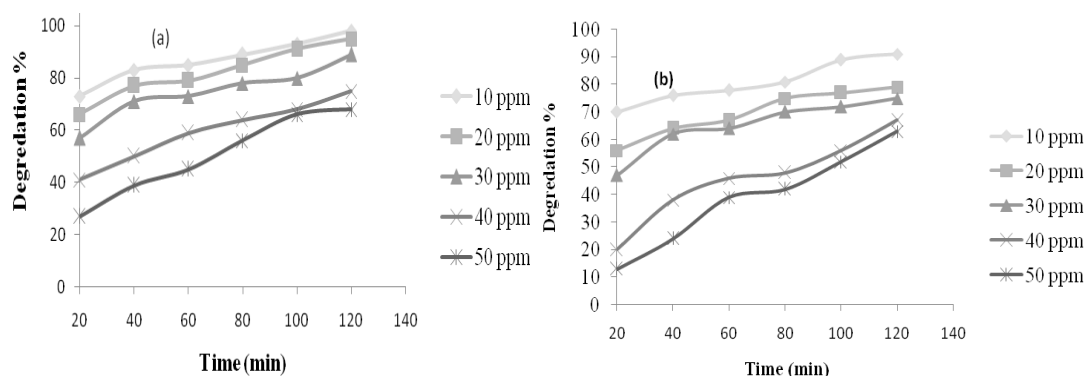


**Figure 6b:** Absorption spectra showing the effect of irradiation time on photocatalytic degradation of Malachite green dye (a) doped and (b) undoped bismuth oxide.

### 3.8. Effect of Dye Concentration

The effect of dye initial concentration on the photodegradation of dye is studied while keeping constant other parameters such as catalyst amount (0.01 g), pH (4), and time interval (120 minutes). It was studied that when the dye's initial concentration increases, then photodegradation decreases; it may be outstanding to the fact that light penetration to nanoparticles surface decreases when dye

concentration is increased (9). More dye molecules will attach in active sites, extensively changing the photodegradation process. It was studied that at little concentration of 50 ppm maximum degradation of 98% for lead-doped bismuth oxide ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ ), as shown in Figure 7(a), and 91% for undoped bismuth oxide ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ ) was observed as depicted in Figure 7(b).

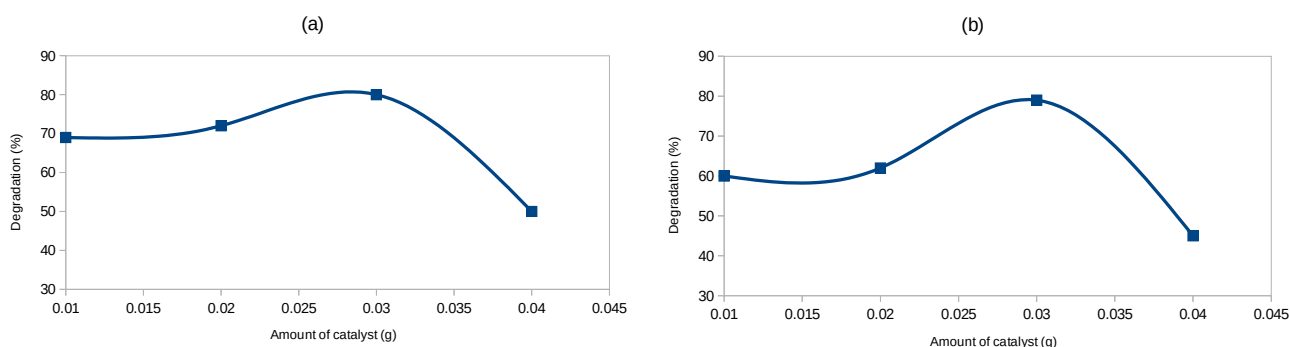


**Figure 7:** Effect of dye initial concentration on photocatalytic degradation of Malachite green dye by (a) lead-doped bismuth oxide (b) undoped bismuth oxide, at catalyst amount 0.01 g, initial dye pH 4.

### 3.9. Effect of Catalyst

The influence of varying catalyst amounts on the photodegradation of the dye was examined using different quantities of catalyst (10 mg, 15 mg, 20 mg, 25 mg, and 30 mg), with a constant radiation time of 120 minutes, an initial dye concentration of 50 ppm, and a pH level of 4. It was observed that the initial degradation rate increased with the addition of more catalysts but subsequently decreased. The reaction rate initially grew with the

addition of more catalysts, reaching an optimal level, after which the nanoparticles began to act as a filter for the incident light, limiting the light intensity from reaching the semiconductor surface (10). The maximum degradation achieved was 82% for lead-doped catalyst, as shown in Figure 8(a), and 79% for undoped bismuth oxide nanoparticles, at an optimal catalyst amount of 20 mg, as illustrated in Figure 8(b).

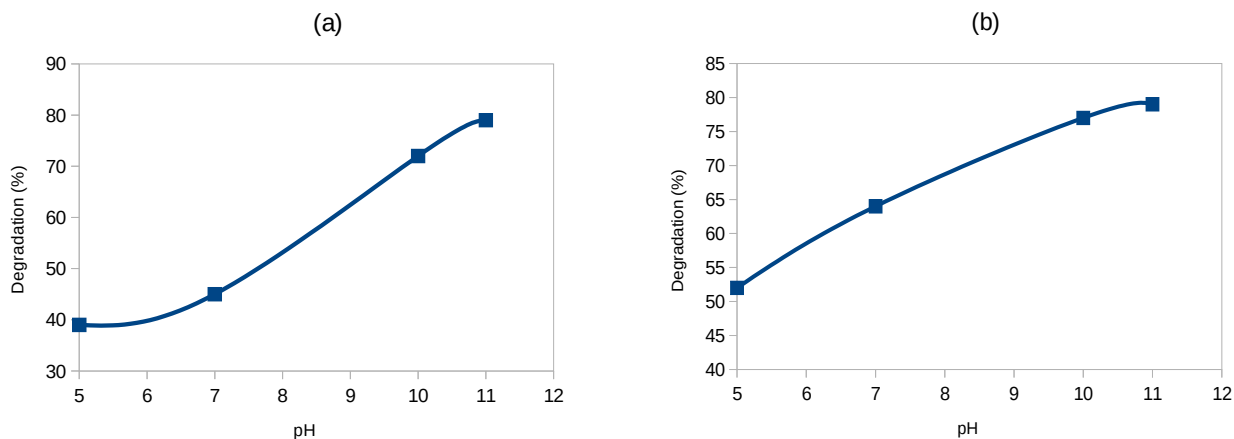


**Figure 8:** Effect of catalyst dose on photocatalytic degradation of MG dye by (a) lead-doped bismuth oxide, (b) undoped bismuth oxide, at catalyst amount 0.01 g, pH 4, and dye initial concentration 50 ppm and time interval 120 minutes.

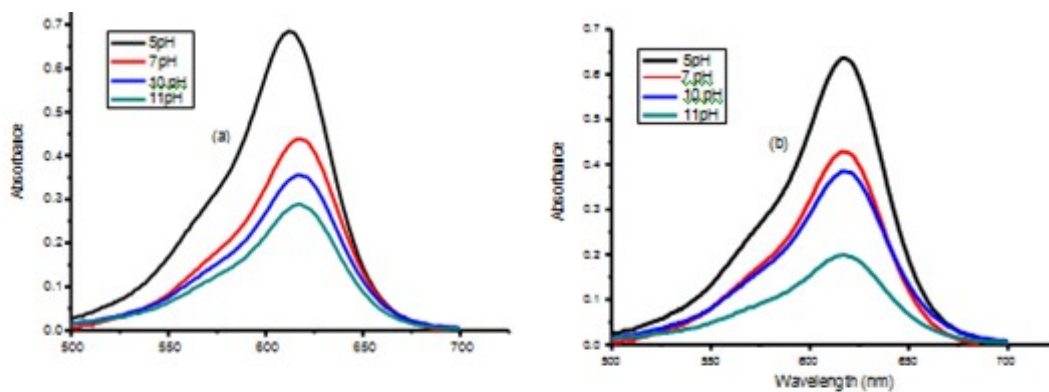
### 3.10. Effect of pH

The effect of pH on the photodegradation of dye was studied at various pH (4, 5, 10, and 11) at a constant radiation time of 120 minutes with a dye concentration of 50 ppm initial and a catalyst quantity of 10 mg. It was observed that the rate of

degradation increases as pH increases (32). The maximum degradation efficiencies of 79% for lead-doped bismuth oxide in Figure 9(a), while 75% for undoped bismuth oxide was obtained as shown in Figure 9(b).



**Figure 9(a, b):** Effect of pH on the photocatalytic degradation of MG dye by (a) lead-doped bismuth oxide (Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) (b) undoped bismuth oxide, at Catalyst amount 0.01 g, dye initial concentration 50 ppm, and irradiation time 120 minutes.



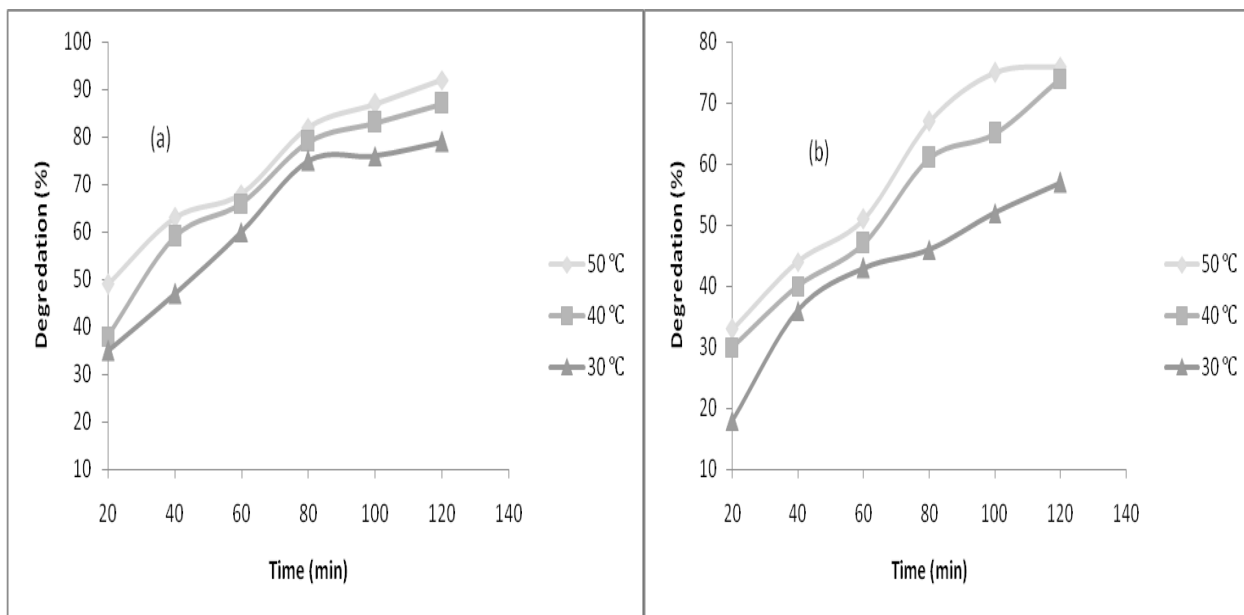
**Figure 9c:** Absorption spectra effect of pH on the photocatalytic degradation of malachite green dye (a) doped (b) undoped bismuth oxide (Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>).

### 3.11. Effect of Temperature

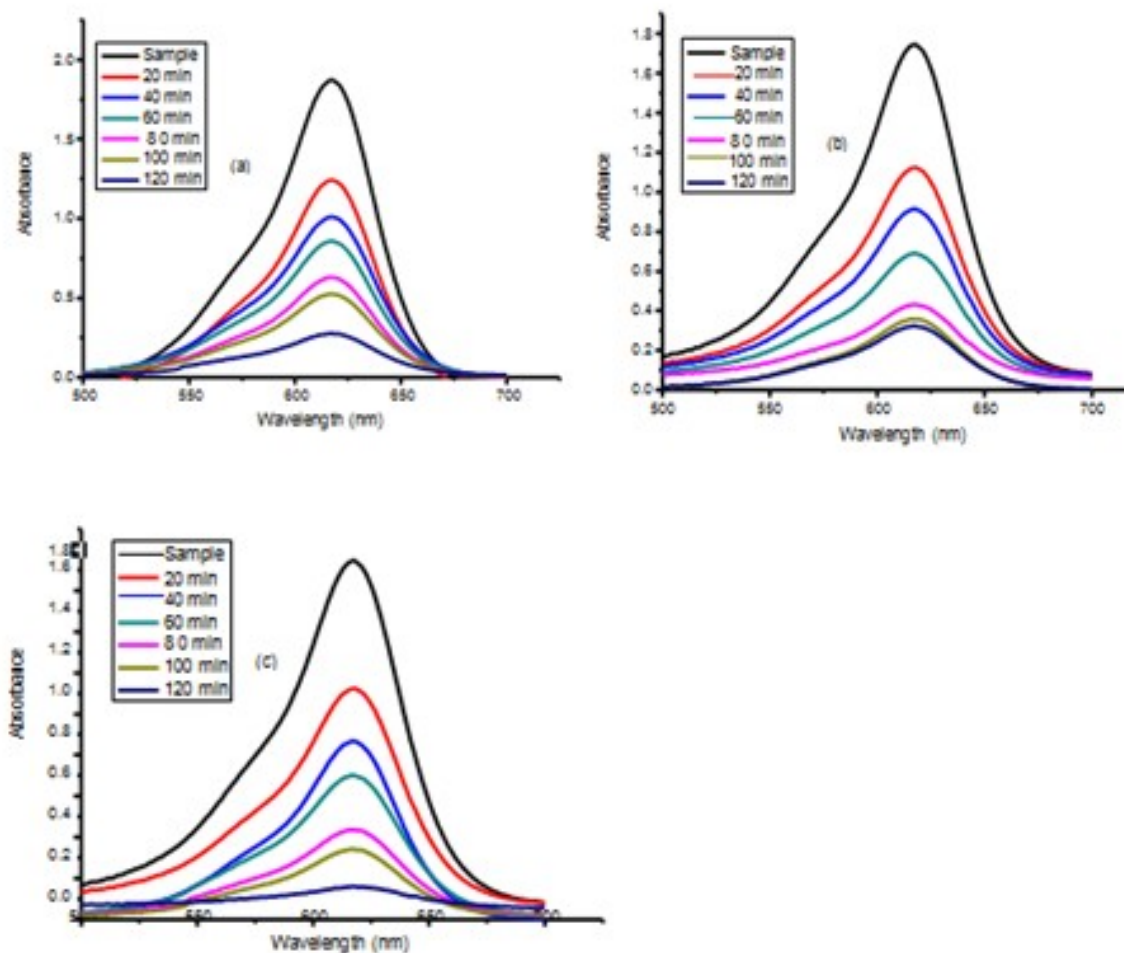
In the photodegradation of dye, temperature plays a significant role. At different temperatures (30, 40, and 50 °C), the dye degradation was studied, keeping the other parameters steady, i.e., irradiation time 120 minutes, 50 ppm initial dye concen-

tration, and catalyst amount of 10 mg. It was experimentally observed that with the temperature increase, dye degradation increased, and the utmost degradation of 92% for lead-doped bismuth oxide in Figure 10(a) and 76% for undoped bismuth oxide was achieved in Figure 10(b).





**Figure 10(a, b):** Effect of temperature on photocatalytic degradation of Malachite green dye by (a) lead-doped bismuth oxide (b) undoped bismuth oxide, catalyst amount 0.01 g, pH 4, time initial concentration 50 ppm and time interval 120 minutes.



**Figure 10c:** Absorption spectra showing effect of irradiation time at constant (60 °C) on the photocatalytic degradation of MG dye (a) (b) (c) for lead-doped bismuth oxide.

### 3.12. Kinetic Study of Nanoparticles

The Kinetic study of degradation of MG at different temperatures (30 °C, 40°C, 50 °C) by using different concentrations (10 ppm, 20 ppm, 30 ppm, 40 ppm, 50 ppm) of doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  and undoped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  as a catalyst. The  $k$  values linearization was used to calculate the temperature parameters of doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  and undoped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ . Table 1 presents the values of  $R^2$ , extracted from the linearization of the rate constants ( $k$ ) by  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ . With increasing the concentration of catalyst, the rate of degradation decreases. However, the same trend was observed for temperature parameters. The photodegradation of the samples was evaluated at a different temperature by applying the following equations (Eq. 2 and 3).

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = k_{App} \times C \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

where  $k_{App}$  is called the pseudo-first-order rate constant.

The integrated form of the above equation is

$$\ln\left(\frac{C_0}{C}\right) = k_{App} \times t \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$

$C_0$  and  $C$  represent the initial and final concentration of MG dye, respectively.

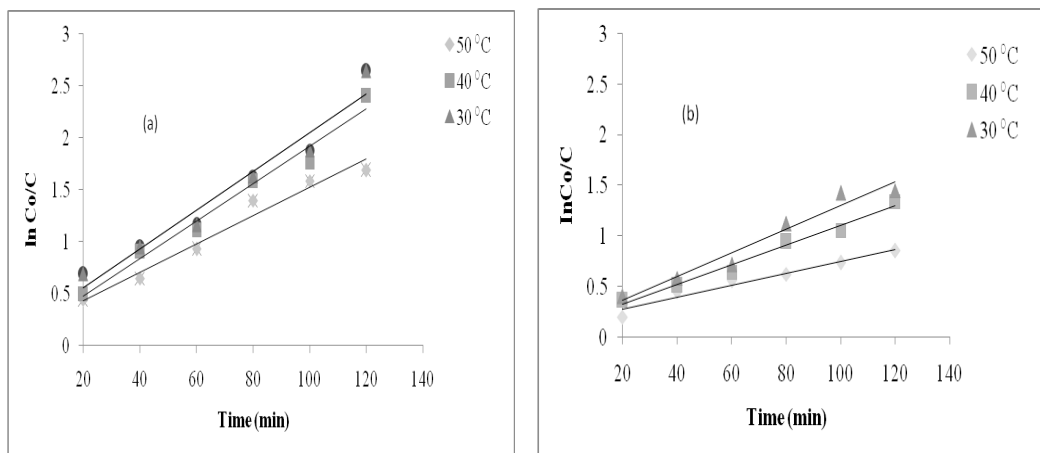
Figure 11(a) and 11(b) show the kinetic study of MG dye. It can be observed that the rate of photocatalytic reaction is significantly affected by the catalyst dose. The  $k_{App}$  and their correlation coefficient values for undoped and Pb-doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  are given in Tables 1 and 2.

**Table 1:** Parameter of pseudo-first-order kinetics equation of different temperatures using Pb- $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ .

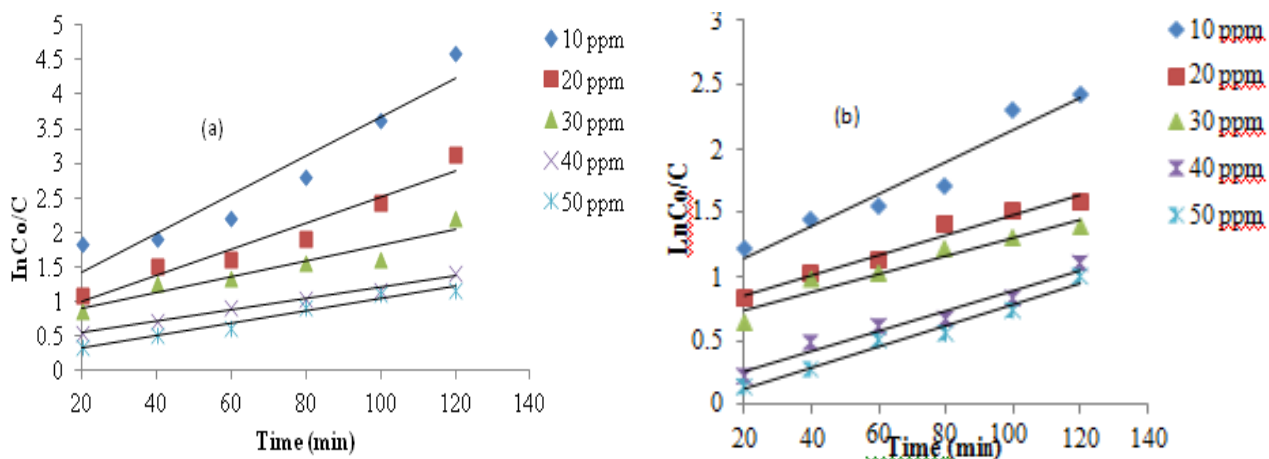
Temp (°C)	Equation	R <sup>2</sup>	kA <sub>pp</sub>
30	y = 0.0136x + 0.1619	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9679	0.0136
40	y = 0.0186x + 0.186	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.954	0.0186
50	y = 0.018x + 0.1134	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9778	0.018

**Table 2:** Parameter of pseudo first order kinetics equation of different temperatures using undoped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

Temp (°C)	Equation	R <sup>2</sup>	kA <sub>pp</sub>
30	y = 0.0117x + 0.1335	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9586	0.0117
40	y = 0.0098x + 0.1276	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9824	0.0098
50	y = 0.006x + 0.1531	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9558	0.006



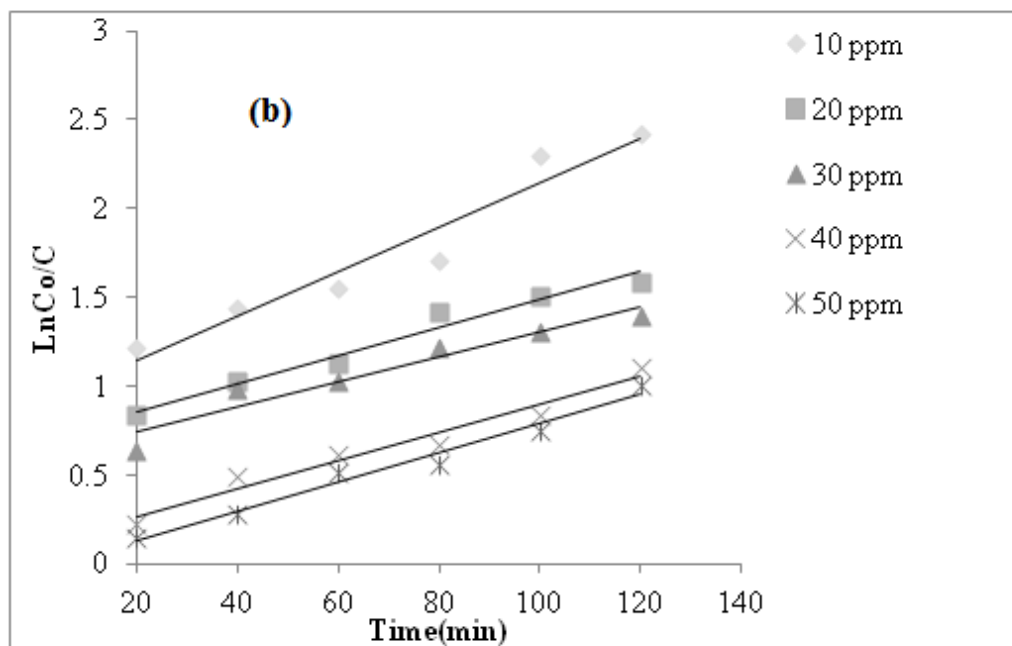
**Figure 11:** Showing the application of pseudo 1<sup>st</sup> orders kinetic to photodegradation of dye on (a) Pb -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (b) undoped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at different temperatures.



**Figure 11c:** Application of pseudo first order kinetic to photodegradation of dye on (a) Pb -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (b) undoped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at different concentrations.

**Table 3:** Parameter of first-order kinetics equation of different concentrations using undoped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

Conc. (mg/L)	Equation	R <sup>2</sup>	kA <sub>pp</sub>
10	y = 0.0125x + 0.897	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9348	0.0125
20	y = 0.0078x + 0.6997	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9656	0.0078
30	y = 0.007x + 0.6016	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.927	0.007
40	y = 0.0079x + 0.1069	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9604	0.0079
50	y = 0.0082x - 0.0359	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9753	0.0082

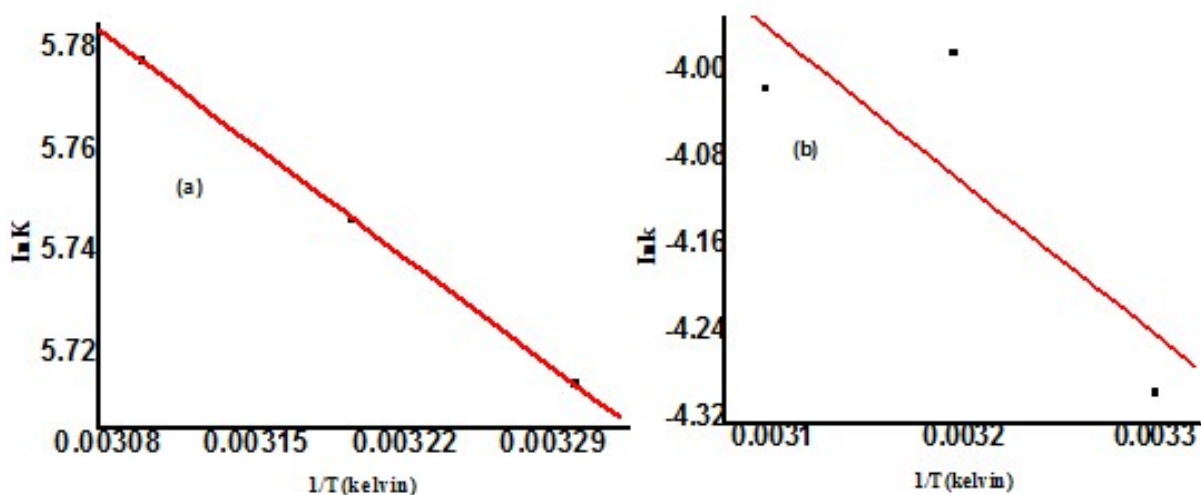
**Figure 11(d):** Application of pseudo first order kinetic to photodegradation of dye on Pb-Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at different concentrations.**Table 4:** Parameter of first-order kinetics equation of different concentrations using Pb-Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

Conc.(mg/L)	Equation	R <sup>2</sup>	kA <sub>pp</sub>
10	y = 0.0279x + 0.8719	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9141	0.0279
20	y = 0.019x + 0.6111	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9405	0.019
30	y = 0.0115x + 0.6653	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9027	0.0115
40	y = 0.0084x + 0.3716	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9873	0.0084
50	y = 0.0089x + 0.1458	R <sup>2</sup> = 0.9723	0.0089

### 3.13. Arrhenius Equation

The effect of temperature was studied at 50 ppm dye concentration, irradiation time 120 min with catalyst amount 10 mg. A linear relation was found

between  $\ln k$  and  $1/T$  with a negative slope for doped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and undoped Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> nanoparticles, as shown in Figure 12(a, b).



**Figure 12:** Arrhenius plot  $\ln k$  vs.  $1/T$  (a) doped (b) undoped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ .

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Many processes have been used for water purification, but out of all these various processes employed, a major improvement of the photocatalytic activity was observed in the system using a combination of oxidant and photocatalyst irradiation under ultraviolet light. The concentration of both the oxidant and the photocatalyst greatly influenced the degradation rate. Also, the process was observed to be strongly pH dependent. Photodegradation could be an advocate approach for managing wastewater containing MG dye as a pollutant. The study found that the degradation process depends on various parameters like temperature, pH, dye concentration, amount of catalyst, and contact time; by changing any of the above parameters, the extent of degradation changed. The optimum conditions for degradation of Malachite Green dye by bismuth oxide catalyst were pH 4, catalyst amount 0.03 g dye initial concentration 50 ppm, contact time 120 minutes, and temperature 30 °C. The techniques such as SEM, FTIR, XRD, and TGA analysis indicated satisfactory formation of NPs. The bismuth oxide nanoparticles have an average size of 90 nm, and lead-doped bismuth oxide is 75 nm, showed by SEM analysis. The FTIR spectrum shows the occurrence of alcoholic compounds and metal oxide in the *Ferula Asafoetida* leaves extract. However, the TGA of undoped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles was almost stable with a little weight loss (2%). The total weight loss in pure  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  was less than the doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ . XRD diffraction of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles reflected a strong and sharp peak at 32.8°, showing that  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles are in the crystalline phase. The crystallite size of  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  nanoparticles is 13.433 nm, and Pb-doped  $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$  is 9.6 nm, calculated from the Debye-Scherrer equation.

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