

# Synthesis of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs by Photo Irradiation Method for Removal Tartrazine Dye Yellow in Aqueous Solutions

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## ARTICLE INFO

Received: October 09, 2023

Revised: February 13, 2024

Accepted: February 21, 2024

Published: September 30, 2024



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cense.

**ABSTRACT: Background:** Copper tin oxide (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) is a cheap and easily accessible tunable that has a 2.5-5 eV bandgap. It is a desirable semiconductor because of these components for a number of applications, including transparent conducting oxides, transistors, solar cells and photocatalytic. **Objective:** The aim of this research is to increase the rate of yellow dye removal percentage efficiency by using Photo Irradiation Method that rate was determined between (59 to 76) % by the simple chemical method. **Methods:** Photo irradiation method used to synthesis Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> from precursor materials, the solution is irradiated by photocell for 30min with cooling (5°C) then drop sodium hydroxide (4 g in 100 ml) then washed, isolated by centrifugation for 20 minutes, grinding the dried powder and calcinated at (450 °C). **Results:** The crystallite size and the crystal structure of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NPs are (43-8.2) nm with a tetragonal structure. Field Emission-Scanning Electron Microscopy (FESEM) results displayed the formation of spherical and semispherical and an average size of (35.97 - 74.43) nm. The optical energy gap value (E<sub>g</sub>) is 5 eV. It is clear from the disappearance of tartrazine's yellow hue in an aqueous solution that the combination was shaken at 298 K and 185 rpm. **Conclusions:** Prove that the removal percentage process by a photo-irradiation method is more effective than other used methods.

**KEYWORDS:** Copper tin oxide; Photo irradiation method; Tartrazine dye yellow; Copper nitrate; Tin chloride dihydrate

## INTRODUCTION

Photo-irradiation, or the exposure to photo-energy emitted by electromagnetic rays, has been used as a human activity from the dawn of time. Its origins may be traced back to the ancient Egyptians, who employed it in mummification [1]. The simple process of photo irradiation is brought about by the absorption of light stimuli (as non-ionizing radiation energy), which increases the energy of the reactant molecule to a level suitable for chemical reactions [2]. This absorbed energy is adequate to initiate/promote a chemical reaction or to carry out crosslinking activity. Nanocomposites are widely used materials in a variety of applications, including batteries, fuel cells, photovoltaic cells, flexible cells, and photodegradation catalysis [3]. Nanophysics is a new growing discipline in physics, particularly in solid state physics, that focuses on the investigation and development of methods for producing usable materials with nanoscale dimensions (1-100 nm). The nanotechnology revolution in chemistry has led to the development of an environment conducive to collaboration among chemists and other professionals. Until it established collaboration with matter and industry experts, it worked in the domains of physics, biology, and engineering [3], [4]. Green synthesis of nanoparticles is more advantageous including reduction agent, stabilization, and most production of nanoparticles [5].

Nanoparticles NPs are the most important constituents of nanotechnology in structural masses [6]. NPs are tiny atomic or partial groups consisting of a particular number of atoms with diameters ranging from 1-100 nm and manufactured from organic or inorganic materials. When compared to produced and bulk materials, they exhibit unique features [7], [8]. Metal NPs have grown in popularity among the various NPs; their nature is distinct due to their exceptionally high aspect ratio. Iron

oxide nanoparticles have become increasingly important due to their environmental friendliness [9], [10], catalytic activity [11], [12], cheap cost [13], [14], and biocompatibility [15]. Because of their availability, resilience, and large surface area, copper oxide, tin oxide, and iron oxide NPs are also beneficial. They also have a wide range of uses in dye sensitized [16].

Copper oxide (CuO) and tin (II) oxide (SnO<sub>2</sub>) nanoparticles (NPs) are important materials with significant future advantages over other materials [17], including special physiochemical properties, low toxicity, high catalytic activity, small volumes, high surface area to volume ratio, physical and magnetic properties [18].

Tartrazine, a synthetic lemon yellow azo dye, is largely used as a food colour. With the exception of green S (E142), tartrazine is a widely used hue throughout the world, particularly for yellow. It can also be blended with bright blue FCF (FD and C Blue 1, E133) or green S (E142) to generate various hues of green. Azoic derivatives are the most significant class of dyes [19]. In this work, CuO-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs were produced using the photo-irradiation method. The purpose of this research is to find high purity, tiny particle size, and a big energy band gap for environmental treatments, as well as to live a safe life. This nanoparticle was characterized by UV-visible absorption spectra of each sample were measured using a spectrophotometer (SYSTRONICS DOUBLE BEAM UV-Vis Spectrometer) and the XRD to determine the structure properties by PANalytical X'Pert PRO, Netherlands) in University of Mansoura, Republic of Egypt. These NPs were validated by their use in dye absorption at various concentrations.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Synthesis Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> by Photo-irradiation Method

In order to prepare a solution, 2.41 grams of Cu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> were dissolved in 50 milliliters of deionized water. Subsequently, 3.507 grams of SnCl<sub>4</sub>.6(H<sub>2</sub>O) substances were solubilized in 50 milliliters of deionized water. The resulting solutions were mixed in the same beaker. Urea was then added to the mixture and allowed to react for one hour. The concentration of urea used was 2.4 grams per 100 milliliters of solution. The solution was irradiated by photocell for 30min with cooling (5 °C) then drop sodium hydroxide (4 g in 100 ml) and wash the precipitate three times, the precipitate was isolated by centrifugation for 20 minutes and dried and grinding the dried powder and calcinated at (450 °C). In this study, a cell was employed to subject the salt of tin and copper to irradiation, thereby serving as the precursor for the synthesis of nanostructures of CuO, SnO<sub>2</sub>, and Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>. UV source (photolysis cell with power of 125 watt) was used, it consists of a medium-pressure ultraviolet lamp, the maximum wavelength of which is 365nm, and the power of the lamp is 125 watts. It is immersed in Pyrex reactor to withstand the heat. The cell contains a tube of quartz instead of ordinary glass because it does not absorb UV rays. The cell must be under continuous cooling to ensure that the reaction is in the same direction as photosynthesis not thermal.

### Adsorption

To examine the adsorption behavior, several batch experiments were carried out of Tartrazine yellow dye onto nanoparticles of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>. Each metal oxide nanoparticle (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) was added in the amount of 0.01 g to 10 ml of dye solution at varying concentrations (5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 ppm). The mixture was subjected to agitation using a water bath shaker, operating at predetermined parameters of speed, time, and temperature. Subsequently, centrifugation was employed at 500 rpm for adoration of 5 minutes to effect separation of the supernatant. The residual concentrations of dye were measured using a UV-Vis Spectrophotometer. The removal percentage (R%) and the quantity of dye adsorbed (qe) were computed using the following equations:

$$R\% = 100 \left[ \frac{C_i - C_e}{C_i} \right] \quad (1)$$

$$qe = V \frac{[C_i - C_e]}{m} \quad (2)$$

Where: The parameter qe (mg/g) represents the quantity of dye that has been adsorbed onto nanoparticles at a state of equilibrium. Ci and Ce denote the initial concentration and the concentration at equilibrium, respectively, measured in milligrams per liter (mg/L). V refers to the volume of the working solution, measured in liters (L), while m represents the mass of the nanoparticles, measured in grams (g).

## Characterization

The impact concerning various parameters, like effects time, the nanoparticles mass, starting adsorbate concentrations and temperature were studied in this work. The impact of adsorption duration on the efficacy of Tartrazine yellow dye removal. which was carried out at temperatures 298K, adsorption time (30-45) minutes, the concentrations were 10 mg/L for dye volume was 10 ml, nanoparticles mass was 0.01 g and shaking speed was 185 rpm.

The effect of adsorbent dosage on dye adsorption has been examined at different amounts of nanoparticles dosage (0.01, 0.05, 0.1, and 0.15 g). These experiments were performed in four volumetric flasks containing 10 ml of starting concentration of 10 mg/L for dye. The adsorption time was 30 minutes temperatures of 298 K for dye, and the shaking speed was 185 rpm. The effect of starting dye concentrations was carried out at a temperature of 298K for dye. The concentrations were (5, 10, 15, 20 and 25) mg/L of dye, the volume was 10 ml and adsorbent dosage of 0.01g and 10 ml of dye, the shaking time was 30 minutes for the dye, and the shaking speed was 185 rpm.

Five different temperatures were applied to determine the preferable temperature for the adsorption of dye onto nanoparticles (288, 298, 308, 318 and 328) K. The amount of nanoparticles was 0.01g. Therefore, the volume was 10 ml of 10 mg/L of dye solution, the shaking time was 30 minutes for the dye and shaking speed was 185 rpm.

Isotherm study was carried out by taking a 10 ml volume of dye solution with 10 mg/L starting concentrations of Tartrazine yellow dye solution, at temperatures (298) K, in a set of volumetric flasks.. Whereas for kinetics study, a dye solution of 10 ml at 298 K was used in a set of volumetric flasks. All the volumetric flasks were placed in a thermostatic water bath shaker and stirred to the equilibrium time for 75 minutes for the dye. 5 ml was drawn from the supernatant during this time, each 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 minutes for the dye till reaching the equilibrium time. To separate liquid and solid phases, the suspension solutions were centrifuged for 5 minutes at 3500 rpm. The transparent liquid was subjected to analysis via a UV-Vis spectrophotometer, with a focus on the maximum wavelength of 425 nm, in order to investigate the various adsorption isotherms and kinetic models of the dye. spectroscopy (Biotech Engineering Management). In the wavenumber domain, the instrument operates (400-4000)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . A contact angle measuring was used (digital microscope 500x-1000x magnification ratio, China) at room temperature, and used droplets of (5 $\mu\text{L}$ ) Deionized water. Image j software was used to measure the contact angle.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### XRD analysis of (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) NCs

In order to investigate the crystal structure type and crystalline size of prepared (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) NCs, an X-ray diffraction (XRD) examination was conducted using a simple chemical method at a calcination temperature of 450. The results are presented in Figures 1-6, which displays the XRD patterns of (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) NCs synthesized through a photo method. The presented illustration depicts the development of a face-centered-cubic crystal structure, characterized by a space group of (Pm3m), crystal dimensions of ( $a = b = c = 9.4 \text{ \AA}$ ), and crystal angles of  $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ . This structure corresponds to the face center cubic structure (JCPDS 00-001-1117) [20].

Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs made using a photo-irradiation technique are shown in Figure 1 with their XRD patterns. In order to comprehend potential Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>, the observed characteristic peaks at copper demonstrated the establishment of face center cubic crystal structure (JCPDS, copper file no. 04-0836). Cu (311), Cu (220), and Cu (202) were utilized as structural models, whereas SnO<sub>3</sub> in the Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> represented the SnO<sub>3</sub> (110), SnO<sub>3</sub> (101), and SnO<sub>3</sub> (211), corresponding to (27°), (39°), and (55°), as seen in Figures 2, and which corresponds to the tetragonal structure (JCPDS 00-041-1445). It is notices in this result that a shift occurs with an increase in intensity and less crystal size compared to the Figure 3. There is no comparable reference and this outcome has never been achieved by originality.

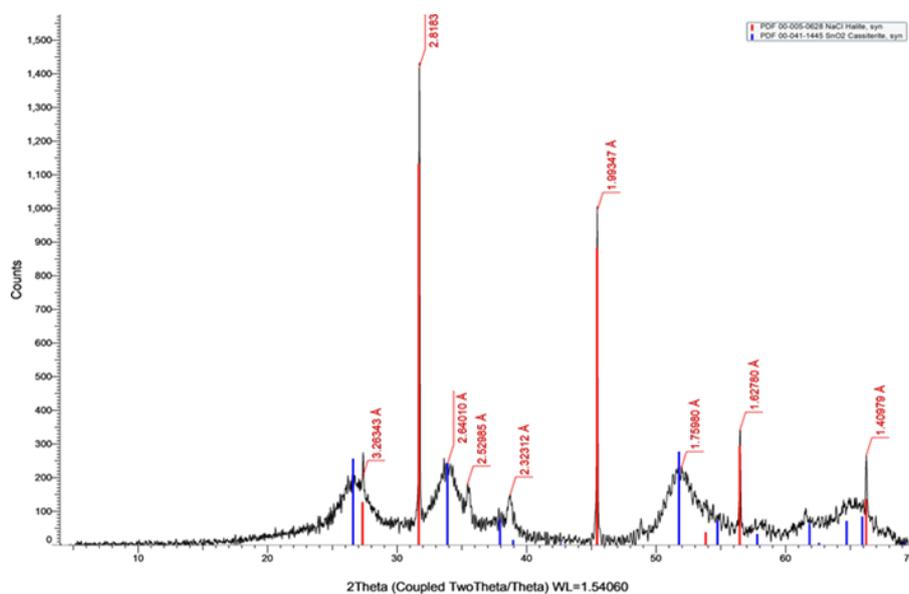


Figure 1. XRD patterns of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs prepared via photo-irradiation method

### FE-SEM of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

The particle size and shape of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs are depicted in Figure 2 (a, b). Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs have a smaller particle size than CuO. Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs have a large spherical shape.

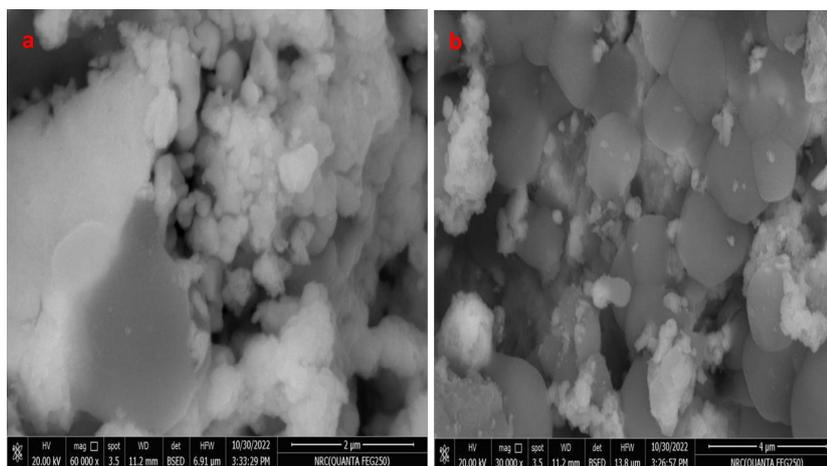


Figure 2. FE-SEM images of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

### EDX and mapping of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

The Sn and O atomic contents of SnO<sub>2</sub> NPs are lower than the predicted values (33:67) of stoichiometric SnO<sub>2</sub> NPs agree with [19] as it demonstrated in Figure 3 which shows a Cu peak with a high Cu content at wt 41.37 % or 35.55 Cu loading, but wt 45.91 % or at 21 % is still less than that of Sn.

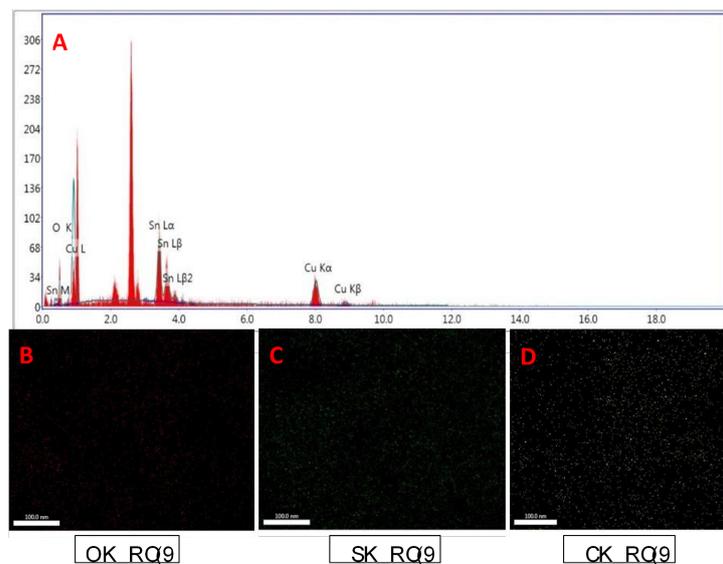


Figure 3. The means and SD of Ca in control, RA and OA

### TEM analysis of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs preparation by the photo method

TEM images were utilized to assess the sample's shape and average particle size as it is illustrated in Figure 4A. The image shows that, with the exception of a few aggregated particles, spherical nanoparticles were produced and uniformly distributed. Copper Tin oxide (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) NCs have a diameter that is estimated from TEM images to be between  $\pm 3.3$  to 4.2 nm [19]. When used the photo irradiation method notices an increase in purity, and accuracy. The photo-irradiation technique is characterized by a significant reduction in the average grain size of particles within a crystal. This is attributed to the splitting of particles resulting from their collision with thermal energy generated by irradiation. This feature is considered to be of utmost importance in the context of this technique.

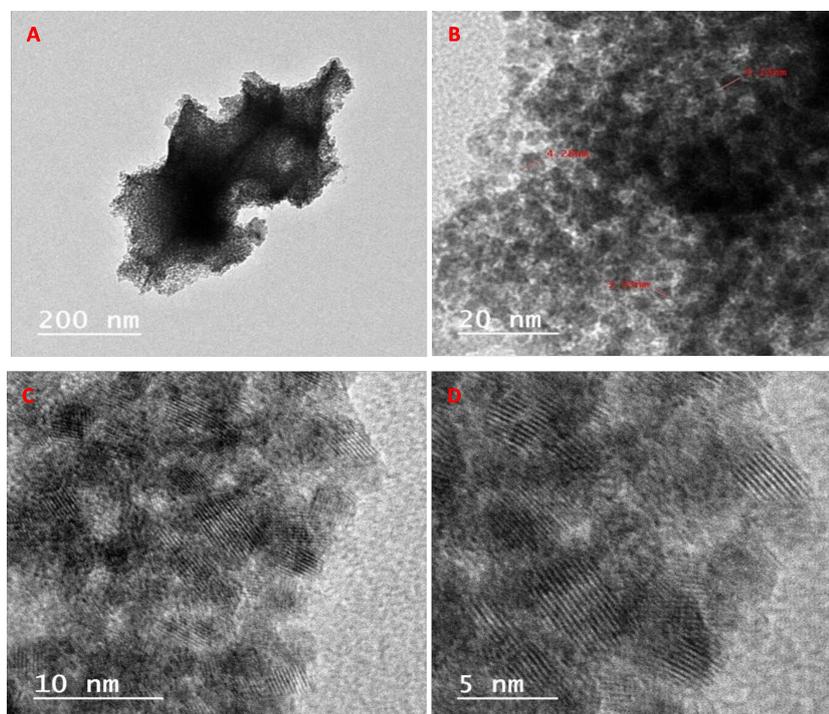


Figure 4. TEM analysis shows the nanostructure of shape Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

## UV-Visible Spectrometer of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NPs Preparation by Photo- Irradiation Method

The optical transmittance spectra of, (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) NPs using at 450 by photo irradiation method as is shown in Figure 5. All films exhibit an elevation in transmittance beyond 400nm wavelengths (> 80%) in the visible region, commonly referred to as the transparent window for light. The aforementioned phenomenon is ascribed to the films' substantial absorbance within this particular region, which corresponds with the optical properties of (CuO) metal in the UV-Vis spectrum. Conversely, a significant decrease in the T % of the films is observed in the cut-off region, where wavelengths dip below 400nm (< 80%).

This is due to the films' intense absorbance in this region [20], [21]. The various material thicknesses utilized to make the films result in a broad range of absorbance variations among them all. The films' significant absorption in this area is consistent with the metal SnO<sub>2</sub> optical properties in the UV-Vis spectrum [22]. The optical transmittance spectra of (Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub>) NCs produced using a photo irradiation method approach at (450) °C.

XRD measurements of changes in average crystallite size, dislocation density, and microstrain can be used to explain variations in the optical band gap. Figure 6 displays the optical band gap values determined by a straightforward photo irradiation process at 450 °C and the range value is (5 eV), respectively.

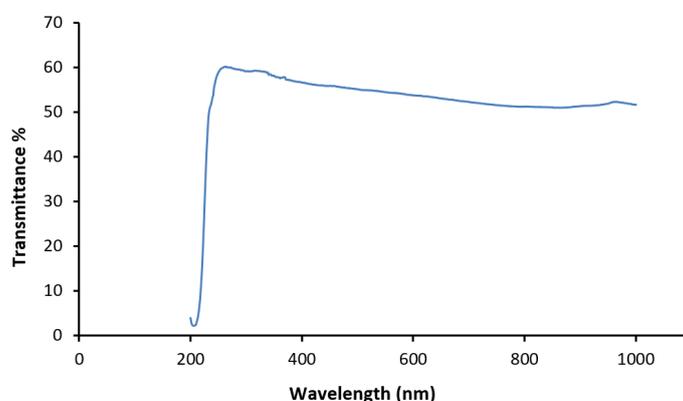


Figure 5. UV-visible spectrum shows the transmittance of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

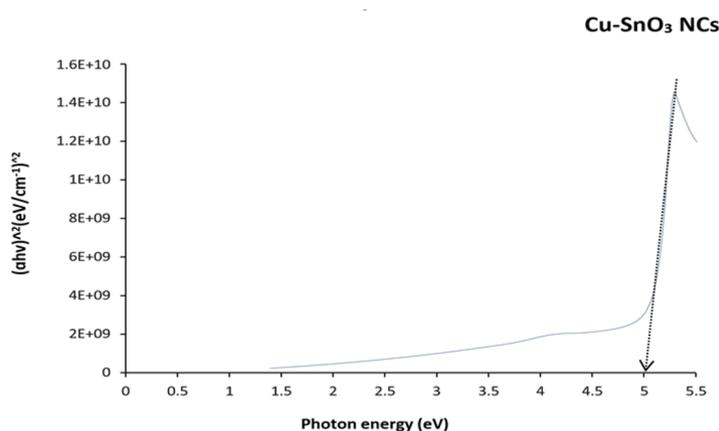


Figure 6. Energy gap of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

## Adsorption of Dye on the Surface of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

The Preparation of direct yellow dye (tetazon) to measure the absorption spectrum and study the calibration curve was registered using a UV-visible spectrophotometer at a maximum wavelength of 430 nm. Figure 7 shows the UV-visible spectrum.

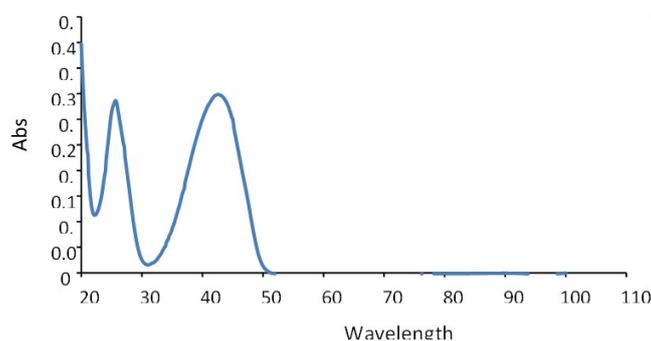


Figure 7. UV-visible absorption spectrum of direct yellow dye

### 1 Effect of Contact Time

The amount of adsorption increases directly with the increase in the concentration of the dye and then reaches a steady state at 60 minutes as shown in Figure 8. This may be due to the vacant adsorption sites on the surface of the nanoparticle, which then slowly increase until the time reaches 60 minutes to reach equilibrium [23].

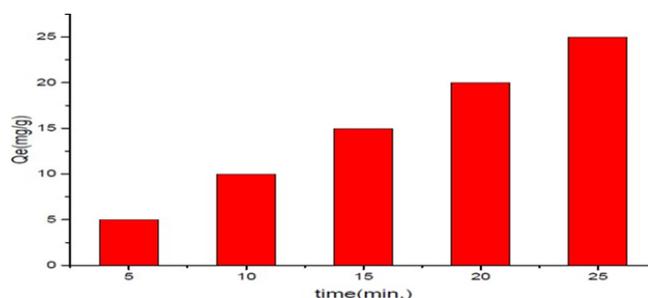


Figure 8. Effect of time on adsorption of dye onto the Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

### 2 The Mass Effect of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs Preparation by the Photo-Irradiation Method

To study the effect of mass for Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs preparation by the photo-irradiation method on the dye (4-43) the removal percentage by nanoparticle increased from 59% to 76%, with the increase in nanoparticle mass. At first, the adsorption rate is rapid due to the increased active site of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs nanoparticle. Then, increased adsorption of dye was shown by increasing the amount of adsorbent mass. Thus, at a high mass, the Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs provides more active surface sites [24] as it is shown in Figure 9.

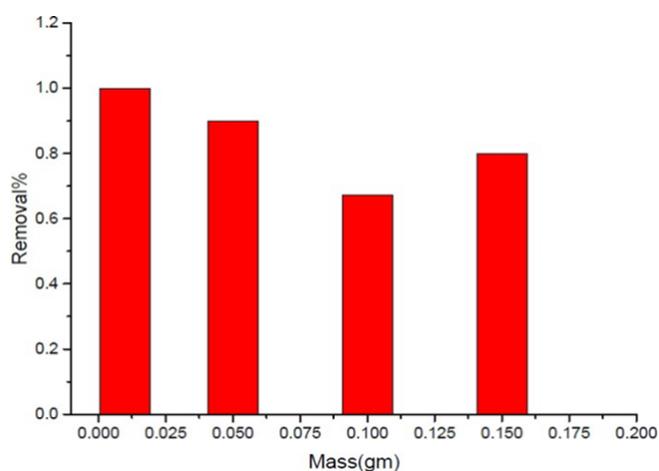


Figure 9. Effect of time on adsorption of dye onto the Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs

### 3 Effect of Temperature

The effect of temperature on the dye removal percentage by altering the temperature from 288 K to 328K under optimal conditions. According to reports, the removal rate increases with increasing temperature. This reflects the endothermic nature of the adsorption process. In addition, increasing temperature causes the internal structure to expand, thus large dye molecules penetrate onto Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs preparation by the photo-irradiation method surface [25].

## Adsorption Isotherms

The adsorption isotherm can determine the type of interaction between the adsorbent and the adsorbate and the probability of the entire adsorption process [26]. It deals with the connection between the surface of the adsorbent and the liquid state when equilibrium is reached at a constant temperature. The isotherm can be represented by a curve ( $q_e$  vs  $C_e$ ).

### 1 Langmuir Adsorption Isotherm

The Langmuir isotherm model posits that the maximum adsorption capacity is achieved when a saturated monolayer of solute molecules is present on the adsorbent surface [27]. The rate of adsorption exhibited a persistent trend, as evidenced by the linear equation of specific adsorption  $C_e$ ,  $Q_e$  versus  $C_e$ . Figure 10 shows the Langmuir isotherm plots for dye adsorption onto nanoparticle samples.

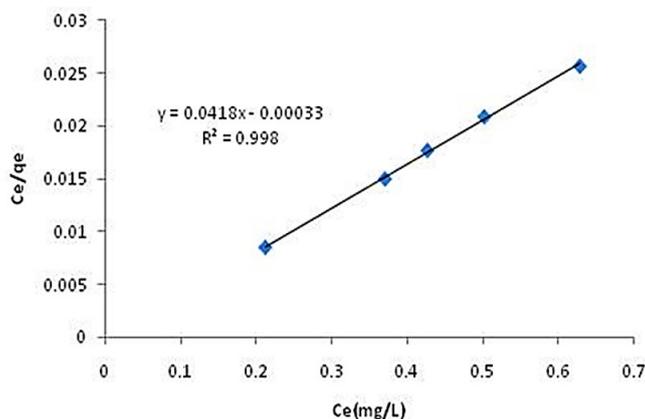


Figure 10. Langmuir isotherms of direct yellow dye at 318 K

### 2 Freundlich Adsorption Isotherm

Freundlich model assumes direct blue dye adsorption takes place on sites by various adsorption at heterogeneous nanoparticle surfaces and can be applied to multi-layer adsorption [28]. The values of these factors were estimated from the intercept and the slope of the graph between  $\ln q_e$  vs  $\ln C_e$ , Figure 11 shows the Freundlich isotherm graphs for dye adsorption on the nanoparticle sample.

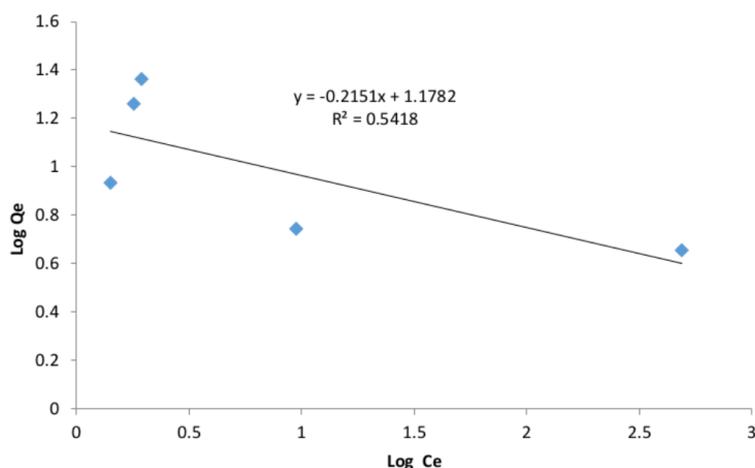


Figure 11. Freundlich isotherm model at 308 k

## CONCLUSION

Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites preparation at calcination temperature (450 °C) nanostructures successfully synthesized using the photo-irradiation method. The nanostructures are utilized for the examination of their structure and optical properties. This approach possesses attributes such as simplicity, cost-effectiveness, and environmental sustainability, thereby enabling the method to be economically feasible for the production of diverse high-quality nanostructures. The best results in this search were (8.2 to 43) nm of Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites determined by X-ray diffraction analysis. FE-SEM images showed the grain size Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites via the value (35.97 - 74.43) nm. While TEM images clear the value of particle size is (5 - 65.04) nm. The optical band gap for Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> nanocomposites was (5) eV. All nano-sized syntheses exhibited favorable structural properties, which were contingent upon various factors, including size, structure, surface roughness, and material impurities. The rate of yellow dye removal percentage efficiency is proved to be between (76 to 90)% by photo-irradiation method. The removal percentage process of CuO NPs, SnO<sub>2</sub> NPs, and Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs with the effect of a photo-irradiation method is more effective than that of nano CuO NPs, SnO<sub>2</sub> NPs, and Cu-SnO<sub>3</sub> NCs by the simple chemical method.

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

None.

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Saad Khalaf Madlool: Worked on the experimental part. Wafaa Mahdi Salih: Wrote the article. Ahmed Mahdi Rheima: Made the final procedures

## FUNDING

None.

## DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

None.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to Mustansiriya University, College of Science, Department of Physics for their valuable help.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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