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## Synthesis of nanostructured molybdenum disulfide (MoS<sub>2</sub>) for photodegradation of organic dyes from aqueous solution

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**Abstract content** &nbsp; (Max 300 words) <a href="http://events.saip.org.za/getFile.py/?target=\_blank">Formatting & Special chars</a>

The increase in wastewater pollution of ground and surface water as a result of organic dyes and toxic metal ions has become a greater threat to human health and other organisms. Greater attention has been paid on removal of organic dyes from wastewater using two-dimensional (2D) nanomaterials. 2D nanomaterials such as transitional metal dichalcogenides (TMDs) have shown a greater potential towards wastewater treatment. Nanostructured MoS<sub>2</sub> belongs to TMDs family and has received much research interest due to its versatile application in catalysis. Here, we present the facile hydrothermal route for synthesis of nanostructured MoS<sub>2</sub> by using sodium molybdate and different sulphur source and capping agents as the precursors, and evaluation of its applications toward the photodegradation of organic dyes. As synthesized MoS<sub>2</sub> nanostructures were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), scanning electron microscopy (SEM), photoluminescence spectroscopy (PL), Raman spectroscopy, and UV-Vis spectroscopy. Rhodamine B and Methyl orange were chosen as a model for organic dyes and used to evaluate the photocatalytic performance of the MoS<sub>2</sub> nanostructure under UV-Vis light. The prepared MoS<sub>2</sub> nanostructure shows a greater potential in photodegradation of those organic dyes in water. Furthermore, we are fabricating heterostructure of MoS<sub>2</sub> with other semiconductor nanomaterials for enhancement of photo-catalytic study.

Key words: Photodegradation, Rhodamine B, Methyl orange, Hydrothermal, Metal dichalcogenides.

**Apply to be considered for a student award (Yes / No)?**

yes

**Level for award (Hons, MSc, PhD, N/A)?**

MSc

**Main supervisor (name and email) and his / her institution**

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**Would you like to submit a short paper for the Conference Proceedings (Yes / No)?**

No

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yes

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