

Zero-valent iron from iron wastes for environmental applications



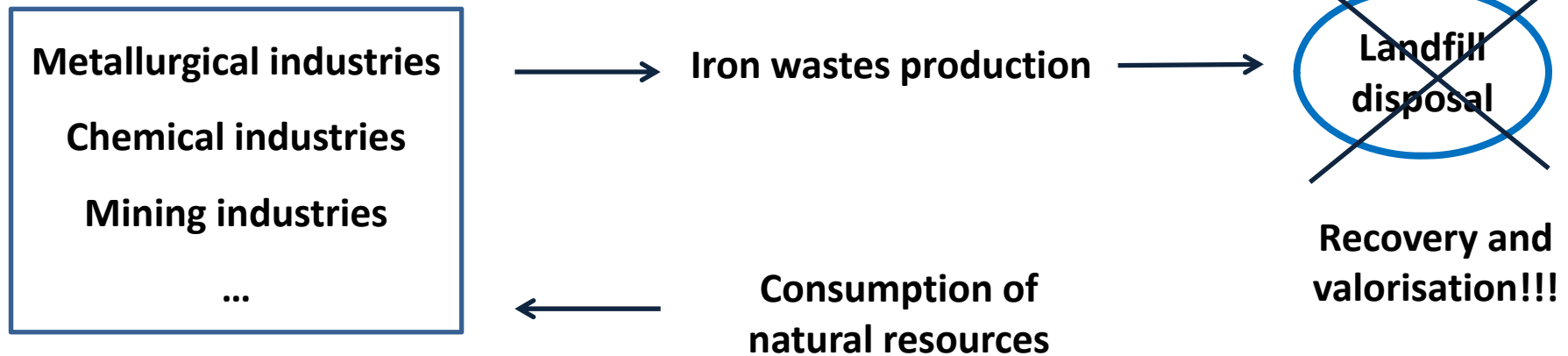
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CIEPQPF – Chemical Processes and Forest Products Research Center

CICECO – Centro de Investigação em Materiais Cerâmicos e Compósitos

Chemical Engineering Department, **University of Coimbra, Portugal**

1. Introduction



“end-of-waste status”
Directive 2008/98/EC, 19th
November of 2008

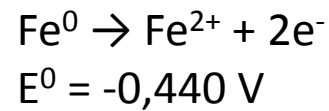
1. Introduction



Zero-valent Iron (ZVI)



Reductive properties



Environmental remediation

soil

groundwater



Reduces pollutants



contaminant degradation

Environmental applications:

- chlorinated organic compounds;
- organochlorine pesticides (PCBs);
- organic dyes;
- metal ions (As(III), Pb(II), Cu (II), Ni(II) and Cr(VI));
- ...

1. Introduction



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Objective of the study

Main goal:

Use of iron wastes for the degradation of methyl orange

2. Experimental methodology



· U · C ·

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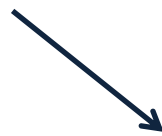
1) Screening of wastes:



Iron Fenton Sludge (IFS)



Cast Iron Shot (CIS)



Metallurgical industry



Grind Precipitate Dust (GPD)



Iron Shavings (ISH)



Carpentry workshops

2. Experimental methodology



2) Chemical characterization of solid wastes:

- ✓ Solid wastes digestion – *Aqua regia (FAAS with Perkin Elmer 3300)*
- ✓ Elemental analysis (*Fisons EA1108*)
- ✓ Surface area with BET (*Micromeritics ASAP 2000*)
- ✓ Mineralogic characterization (XRD)

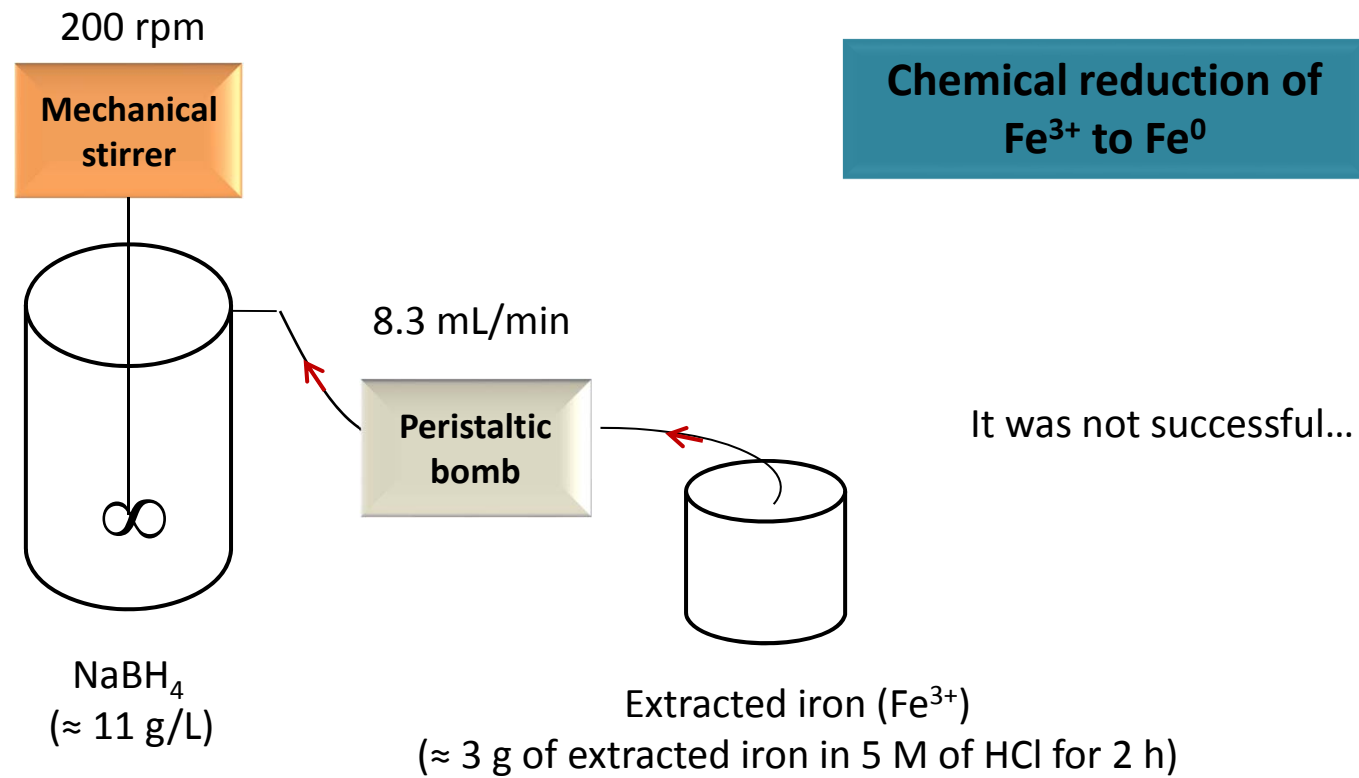
2. Experimental methodology



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3) Chemical reduction of iron from Iron Fenton Sludges (IFS):



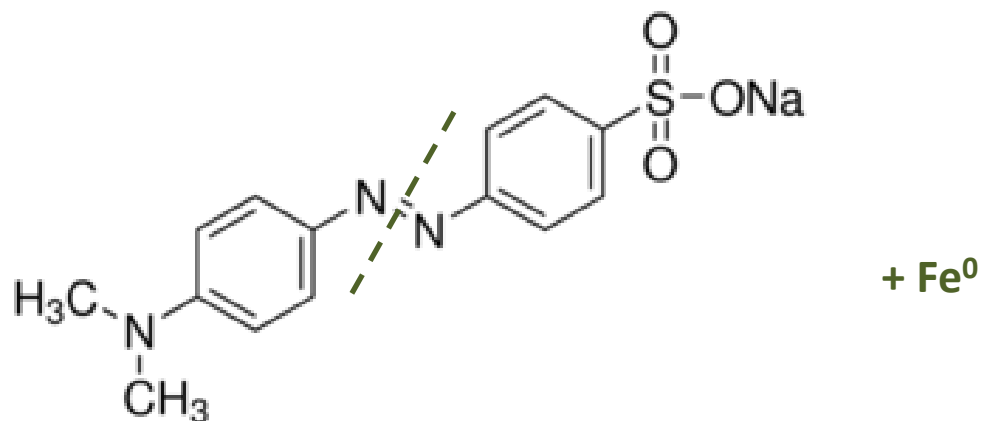
2. Experimental methodology



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4) Treatment procedure for color removal of Methyl Orange (MO)



- ✓ 50 – 300 mg/L of MO
- ✓ pH tested: 5 – 10
- ✓ GPD waste was used in a range of 0.2 to 1 g/L
- ✓ 20 – 40 °C
- ✓ Water bath shaker, ≈ 100 rpm
- ✓ Color was measured at 465 nm with UV/vis spectroscopy after 90 min of reaction

2. Experimental methodology



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5) Color removal with DOE

Design of Experiments (DOE): *STATISTICA V9*



Box-Behnken

(response surface
methodology at 3 levels)

30 experiments

$$Y = f(x) = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^k \beta_i x_i + \sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{j=i+1}^k \beta_{ij} x_i x_j + \sum_{i=1}^k \beta_{ii} x_i^2$$

Factors analyzed:

x_1 – MO (mg/L)
 x_2 – pH
 x_3 – ZVI (g/L)
 x_4 – T (°C)

Response variable:

y – Removal of color (%)
 $(Abs_i - Abs_f) / Abs_i$

Factor	Units	-1	0	1
MO	mg/L	50	180	300
pH	-	5	7	10
ZVI	g/L	0.2	0.6	1.0
T	°C	20	30	40



3. Results and discussion



Solid wastes characterization

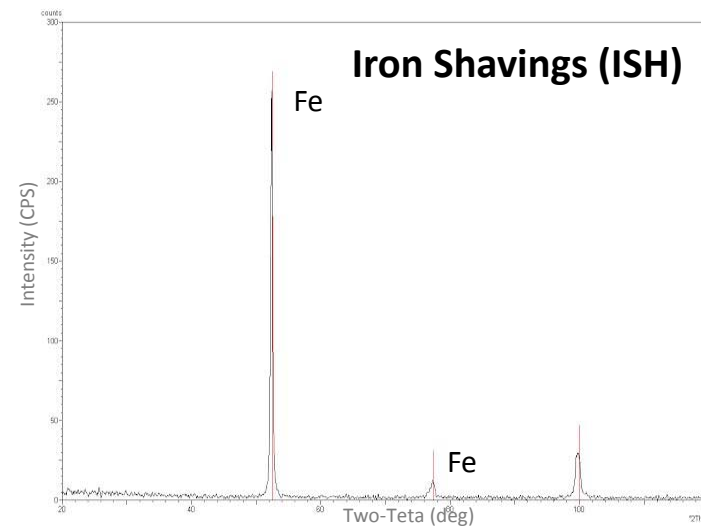
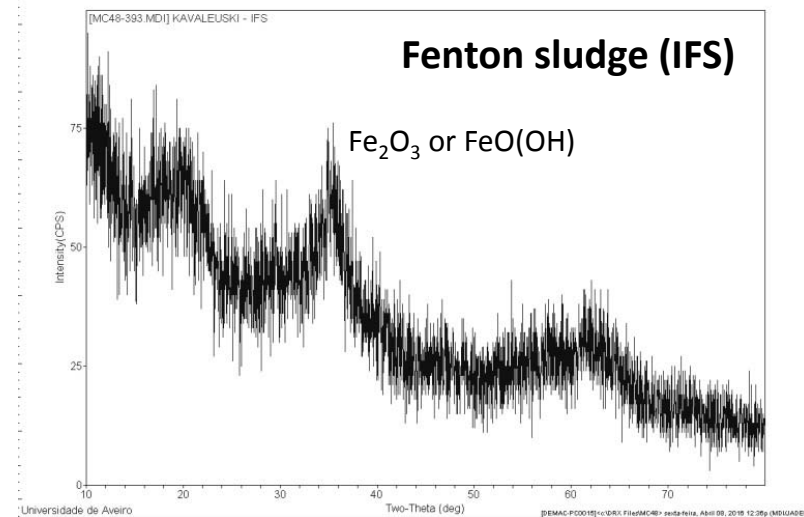
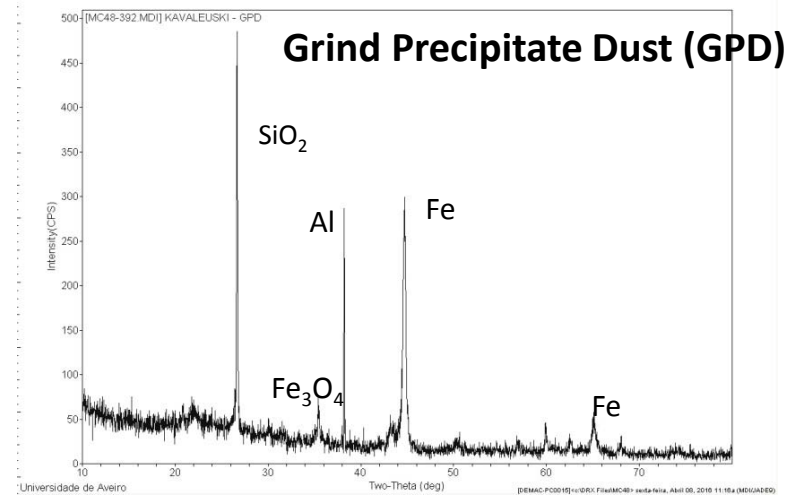
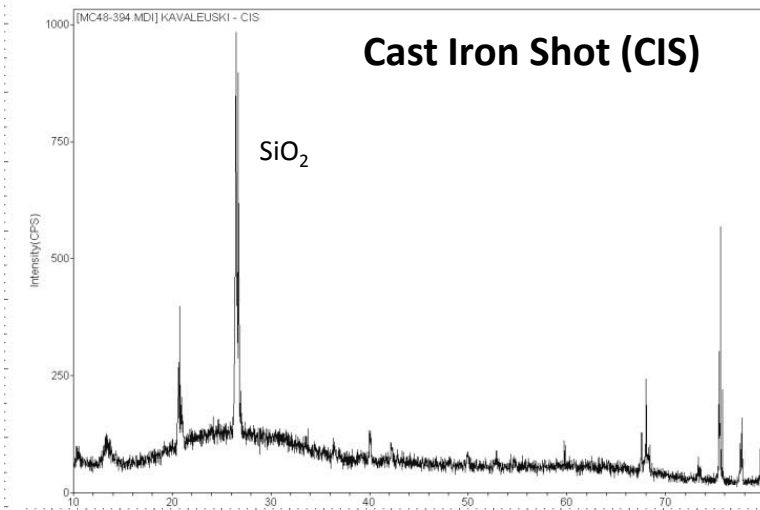
Wastes rejected!

	IFS	CIS	GPD	ISH
Moisture (%)	52.3±0.7	0.1±0.01	0.6±0.01	≈ 0
VS (%)	52.8±0.1	1.3±0.4	≈ 0	≈ 0
Fe (g/kg)	302.0±17.5	0	447.7±24.3	981.8
A _{BET} (m ² /g)	0.58±0.03	-	5.30±0.05	1.14±0.04
Density (kg/m ³)	1717±19	-	5547±34	-
D _p	26 μm	< 0,1 mm	< 0,1 mm	< 0,5 mm
N (%)	1.56	0.33	0.25	-
C (%)	30.60	5.29	0.82	-
H (%)	5.51	0.19	0.09	-
S (%)	2.64	1.88	1.86	-

3. Results and discussion

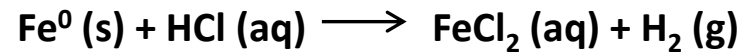


Solid wastes characterization -XRD



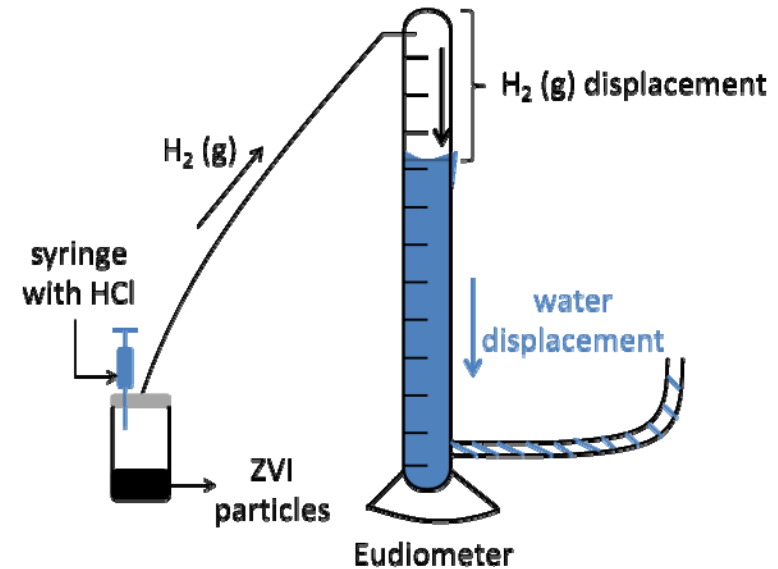
3. Results and discussion

Fe⁰ quantification present in the wastes for MO degradation



$$n_{\text{H}_2} = \frac{PV_{\text{H}_2}}{RT}$$

- ✓ 50 mL eudiometer;
- ✓ 50 mg of ZVI wastes (GPD and ISH) were tested;
- ✓ 2 mL of HCl;



Fe⁰ present in the wastes

GPD: 90.3% of Fe⁰ and 9.8% of oxides/SiO₂

ISH: ≈ 60% of Fe⁰ and ≈ 40% of oxides

3. Results and discussion



Design of Experiments

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = 46,1498 + 0,0959x_1 - 27,0192x_2 + 65,4346x_3 + 4,8442x_4 - 0,0001x_1^2 + 1,5146x_2^2 - 7,2884x_3^2 - 0,0748x_4^2 + 0,0057x_1x_2 - 0,0697x_1x_3 - 0,0019x_1x_4 - 3,3687x_2x_3 + 0,0771x_2x_4 - 0,2550x_3x_4$$

$$R^2 = 0,73017$$

Factors analyzed:

x_1 – MO (mg/L)

x_2 – pH

x_3 – ZVI (g/L)

x_4 – T (°C)

Response variable:

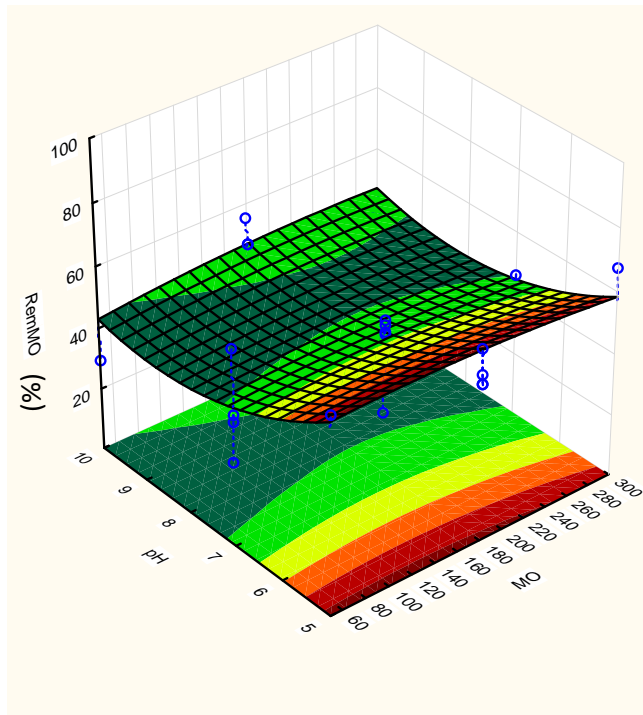
Removal of color (%)

Factor	SS	df	MS	F	p
b_0	153,734	2	76,867	1,115	0,357
x_1	21,926	2	10,963	0,159	0,855
x_2	1070,176	2	535,088	7,764	0,006
x_3	253,662	2	126,831	1,840	0,198
x_4	620,329	2	310,165	4,500	0,033
x_1x_2	13,262	1	13,262	0,192	0,668
x_1x_3	48,580	1	48,580	0,705	0,416
x_1x_4	21,878	1	21,878	0,317	0,582
x_2x_3	46,603	1	46,603	0,676	0,426
x_2x_4	15,250	1	15,249	0,221	0,646
x_3x_4	4,162	1	4,162	0,060	0,810
Error	895,978	13	68,9214		

3. Results and discussion

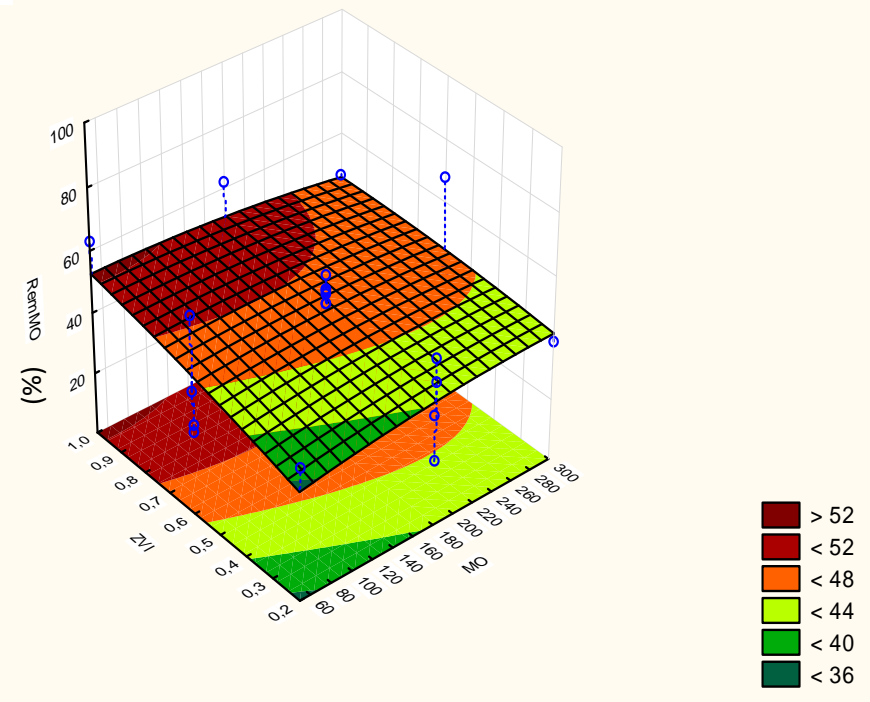


Design of Experiments – Color removal (%)



pH vs MO_i (mg/L)

Acidic pH are better for color removal



ZVI (g/L) vs MO_i (mg/L)

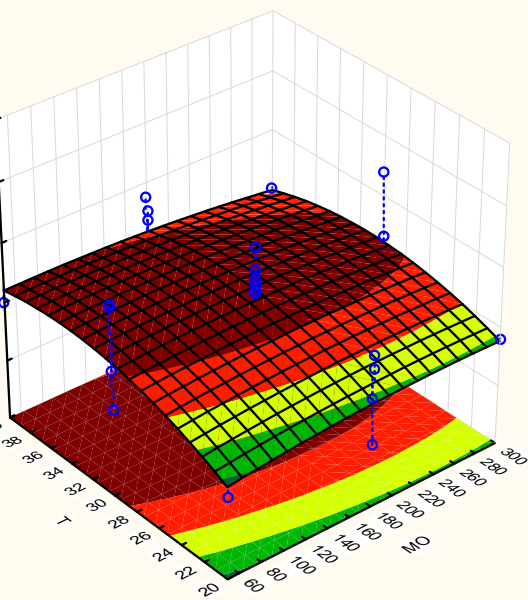
Higher loads of ZVI lead to higher efficiencies of color removal to relatively lower MO (mg/L)

Results and discussion

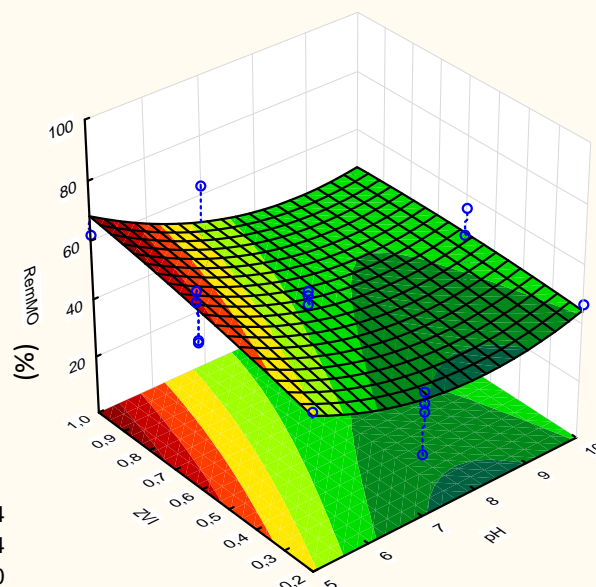


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Design of Experiments – Color removal (%)



T vs MO_i (mg/L)



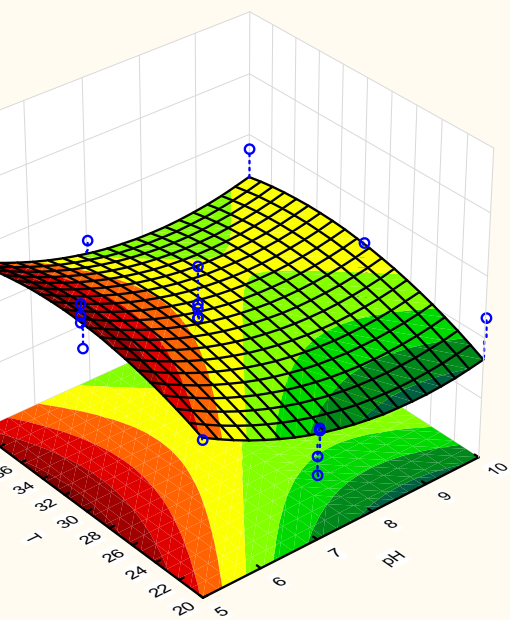
ZVI (g/L) vs pH

Results and discussion

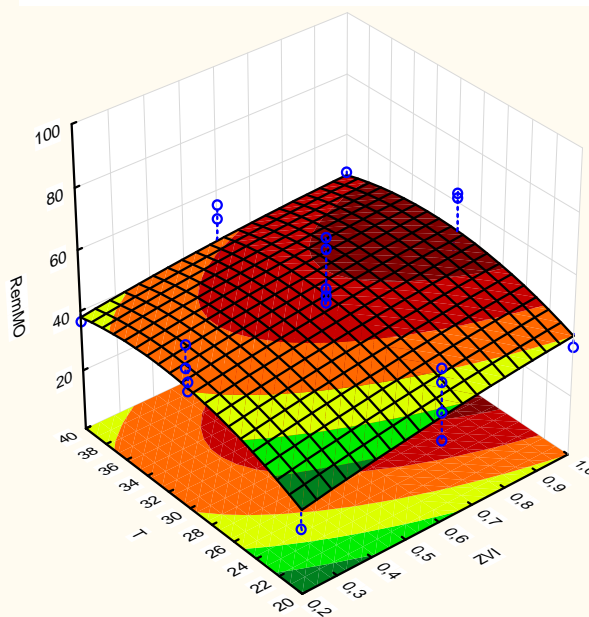
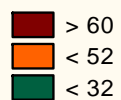


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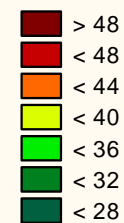
Design of Experiments – Color removal (%)



T vs pH



T vs ZVI (mg/L)



Results and discussion



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Design of Experiments – Color removal (%)

Optimal solution in the model with GPD:

MO (mg/L)	50
pH	5
ZVI (g/L)	1
T (°C)	32.6

Color Removal (%) **72.3**

Validation of the optimal solution in the model with GPD:

64.2±1.2% (Error: 8.1%)

Color removal of iron shavings for the optimal solution: **59.4±0.4%**

Conclusions and forthcoming work



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Conclusions

Chemical reduction of Fe^{3+} from wastes seems to be challenging by sodium borohydride approach;

Groundwater Precipitate Dust (GPD) and Iron Shavings (ISH) wastes can be used as ZVI in environmental reactions;

DOE approach revealed to be relevant in order to compare the interactions of variables in the model and to optimize the model (acidic pH is the most relevant factor in order to remove MO);

Around 60% of efficiency on the color removal of MO was attained with both wastes.

Forthcoming work

Thank you for your attention

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