



## RESEARCH PAPER

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## Antibacterial application of synthesized Ce doped TiO<sub>2</sub> and its characterization

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Article published on December 06, 2022

**Key words:** Nanocomposite, Diffusion method, Antibacterial activity, Pathogens

### Abstract

Recently, Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite has been synthesized by sol gel methods for the study of the antibacterial activity on Gram positive and Gram-negative bacteria by well diffusion method. This prepared Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite have been characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), Scanning electron microscopy (SEM-EDAX), Ultra Violet Spectroscopy (UV), Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR) and Surface Area Analysis (BET). The respective XRD patterns indicate crystalline nature having a rhombohedral structure. The particle size of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite is 35nm. SEM images confirm the spherical morphology of the sample. The purity of the synthesized Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite has been confirmed from the energy-dispersive X-ray (EDAX) spectra and then C, O, Ti, Cd, Pt element are present in Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite. The weight percentage of Cd is 5.8%, Ti is 51.03%, C is 5.13% and O is 31.75% in Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite. BET image shows that the major pore size distribution of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites is ranged from 2.24nm. The Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite showed that the antibacterial activity when tested against the pathogens only gram-negative bacteria such as *Pseudomonas*. The zone of minimum inhibition concentration was measured in a range of 20mm in 25μl and 30mm in 100μl.

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## Introduction

The latest development of nanotechnology increases the number of potential applications of synthetic nano-scale materials (Nanopowders, nanocomposites, nanofibers etc.), the products considered by using sizes below 100nm trendy at smallest one dimension (Giovanni *et al.*, 2015). Metals have been used for centuries as bactericidal agents; silver, copper, gold, titanium, cadmium and zinc have involved particular devotion, each having numerous properties and spectra of activity (Vanaja *et al.*, 2013). Cadmium nanocrystals recently have involved huge attention owing toward their unique size-dependent optical and electrical properties resultant from their quantum confinement effect. Their properties can be adjusted finely by fixing with different suitable material, used for important technological purposes including antibacterial activity (Li *et al.*, 2011; Demir *et al.*, 2012; Qian *et al.*, 2012). Titanium dioxide has numerous crystalline structures which are used in solar cells, air purifier catalysts, photovoltaic materials, gas and humidity sensors and antireflection coatings (Han *et al.*, 2006; Samuela *et al.*, 2005; Chen *et al.*, 2006). Powdered titanium oxide is likewise normally used as a whitener in toothpastes (Malarkodi *et al.*, 2013). The antibacterial, antifungal, and antiviral activities of nanoparticles have remained approximately investigated in evaluation with other metals but, in recent years, only a few authors have reported the antibacterial activity of metal such as cadmium nanocrystals (Zare *et al.*, 2018; Tabatabaee *et al.*, 2013). The development of novel cadmium-based quantum dots or carbon materials shows abundant potential in the treatment and identification of cancer and targeted drug delivery owing to their better size, highly optical fluorescence property, and ease to functionalize the tissue (Rzagalinski *et al.*, 2009). It is reported that the receptivity of  $\text{TiO}_2$  with visible light capacity significantly improved by doping with numerous elements (Umebayashi *et al.*, 2003; Pelaez *et al.*, 2014). In recent years, there has remained growing interest in Cadmium using Titanium Oxide nanocomposite by way of a possible new material for Optical fiber (Fades *et al.*, 1993; Dislich *et al.*, 1993;

Pettit *et al.*, 1993). In order to replace other materials, pure and high qualities with uniform crystals of Cadmium with Titanium Oxide nanocomposite of good optical quality are needed. Generally, it has been found that reaction sintering is difficult to control, especially when a chemically homogeneous, single-phase product with high purity high density and uniform microstructure is desired. Sol-Gel processing has been investigated extensively as an alternative to conventional processing (Phani *et al.*, 1998). This method involves the controlled hydrolysis of an alkoxide, followed by condensation, which in turn, forms a gel. The structure of the final compound or material is very sensitive to pH, stability of the reactants, amount of water, and impurities. In the present investigation work, we describe the synthesis of Cadmium with Titanium Oxide ( $\text{Cd-TiO}_2$ ) nanocomposite powders using a Sol-Gel technique, which leads to high purity crystalline powders at temperatures lower than solid state reactions. In this work, we have tested the prepared Cadmium with Titanium dioxide ( $\text{Cd-TiO}_2$ ) nanocomposite against these bacteria to study their antibacterial effect against Gram negative and Gram positive bacteria after proper morphological and structural characterization of the prepared sample through Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM), Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Ultraviolet Spectroscopy (UV), and X-ray diffraction (XRD).

## Materials and methods

### Chemicals and Materials

Titanium (IV) isopropoxide (TIP, 99.0%), N-dimethylformamide (DMF, 99.8%) and 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium hexafluorophosphate (PF6, 99.0%) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Inc. (Milwaukee, WI). The Cadmium Sulphate (99.8%) and acetonitrile (99.5%) used in our experiments. All these chemicals were used as received. Deionized water was used throughout the experiments except for in the antibacterial tests, when sterilized  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was used.

### Preparation of $\text{Cd-TiO}_2$ Nanocomposite Powders

A solution comprising 5mL of PF6 and 45mL of DMF was made, in which a desired amount of  $\text{CdSO}_4$  was dissolved.

Titanium (IV) isopropoxide (9.68mL) was slowly introduced into the solution with vigorous stirring. Deionized H<sub>2</sub>O (2.28mL) was added dropwise to hydrolyze and form a gel. After overnight aging, the gel was washed with acetonitrile repeatedly to remove the entrapped PF<sub>6</sub>, vacuum-dried at 80 °C, and calcined in air at 600°C for 4 h to produce Cd- TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite powder.

#### Characterization of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite

The specific surface area (BET) was also determined to analyze the chemical compositions of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub>. To study the crystalline structure, X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns were recorded on a powder X-ray diffractometer (X'pert Pro). The morphology of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite was examined using a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM, Model JEOL JEM-2010F) in combination with an energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) probe for microscopic elemental analysis. Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer (BRUKER Vertex-70) was employed for ascertaining the bonds and stretching modes present.

#### Antibacterial activity

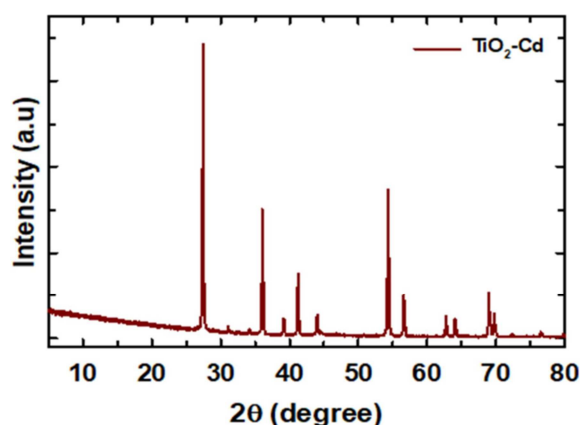
Antibacterial susceptibility testing was carried out by the standard well diffusion method (Azam *et al.*, 2012) against gram negative bacteria such as *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas*, *Enterobacter* and gram-positive bacteria such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*. The bacterial cultures were grown in Nutrient broth media, for 24 h. Then, the wells were filled with a fixed volume of the Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite and water as a control. The plates were placed in a refrigerator (5-10 min) for successive diffusion, and subsequently, the bacterial strains were incubated at 37°C for 24 h. After the incubation, the diameter of the inhibition zone was determined and recorded. The experiments were performed in triplicate, and therefore, the average diameter of the inhibition zone with its standard deviation was determined.

### Result and discussion

#### X-ray Diffraction

X-ray diffraction (XRD) is used for phase identification where the diffracted intensities are

recorded as a function of  $2\theta$ . The XRD pattern of the Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite powder calcinated at 600°C for 4 h has been shown in the Fig. 1. Fig. 1 shows that the particular diffraction peaks at 27.1°, 36.0°, 39.0°, 41.1°, 44.0°, 54.5°, 56.5°, 63.0°, 64.5°, 69.0°. The all peaks of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite are indicating the Crystalline size of the phase. On the other hand, sharp and intensive peaks are observed for the sample calcinated at 600°C for 4 h, indicating a higher degree of crystallinity. A weak (JCPDS No. 29-1360) peak was observed in the pure TiO<sub>2</sub> sample. Sharp peak represents as (Cd- TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite) Cadmium present from Titanium Oxide nano powder. For the sample of all the diffraction lines agree with reported values and match with the JCPDS data (card No: 29-277) confirming the formation of rhombohedral structure. The crystallite size is calculated and found to be Scherrer formula applied to the three highest peak such as 27.1°, 36.0°, 54.5° orientation which is the maximum reflection of the rhombohedral structure of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite. The particle size of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite is 35nm. The increase in Cd loading appears to increase the TiO<sub>2</sub> crystallite size in the powders. The actual TiO<sub>2</sub> particle size is expected to vary similarly (Phani *et al.*, 2000).

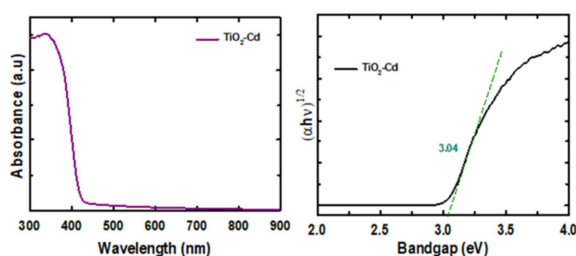


**Fig. 1.** The XRD image of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite.

#### Ultra Violet Spectroscopy

Fig. 2 shows that the exhibit UV-Vis spectrophotometer of synthesized Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite powder by using solgel method. The Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite growth phase plays an important role in nanocomposite synthesis process.

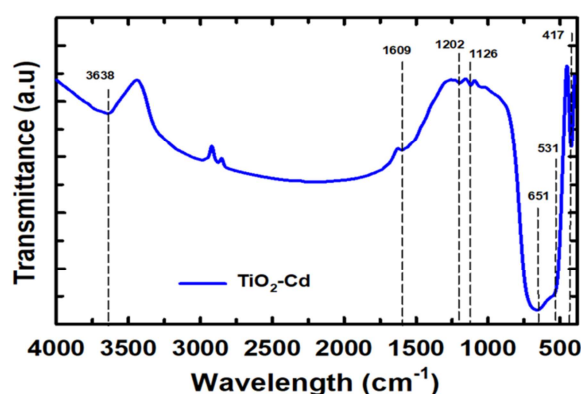
The wide peak was located between 350nm for Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite powder. The absorbance of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite that was gradually increased after indicates gradual increase of nanocomposite. Finally, the result shows that the UV- visible absorption spectrum of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite shows an absorption onset at 350nm (band gap = 3.04eV)



**Fig. 2.** The UV image of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite.

#### Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy

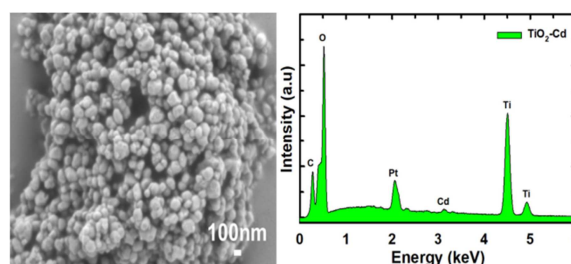
Several vibration bands of the Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite can be observed from 4000 to 500cm<sup>-1</sup> as shown in Fig. 3. In the higher energy region, the broad peak located at around 3638cm<sup>-1</sup> can be consigned to the stretching vibrations band observed at O-H bond in the carboxyl group (Zhu *et al.*, 2016). The bands observed for the C-N bond at 1202cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1126cm<sup>-1</sup> agrees to the stretching vibrations of the aliphatic amines and aromatic respectively. The peak at 531 cm<sup>-1</sup> agrees to anatase phase of TiO<sub>2</sub>. The decrease in conduction elsewhere 417cm<sup>-1</sup> is attributed to Ti-O stretching vibration and Ti-O-Ti lattice (Reza *et al.*, 2013). The FTIR spectral results showed the possible interactions of the Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite, which might be responsible for the stabilization of the nanocomposite (Zhu *et al.*, 2016).



**Fig. 3.** FTIR image of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite.

#### Scanning Electron Microscopy-EDAX

SEM analysis is carried out to determine the morphological analysis of the synthesized Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite. The SEM images of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite are given in Fig.4. The average size of the Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite is established in the range of 35nm. Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite attained a shape of spherical and then crystalline nature. The purity of the synthesized Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite has confirmed from the energy-dispersive X- ray (EDAX) spectra, which is indicated in Fig 4. Elements such as C, O, Ti, Cd, Pt are present in Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite. The weight percentage of Cd is 5.8%, Ti is 51.03%, C is 5.13% and O is 31.75% in Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite as shown in Fig. 4. The doping in Cd nanocrystals is also confirmed from the EDAX spectra. No other additional impurity peak is obtained in the spectra, which shows that the prepared nanocrystals are pure in nature (Daniel sam *et al.*, 2021).

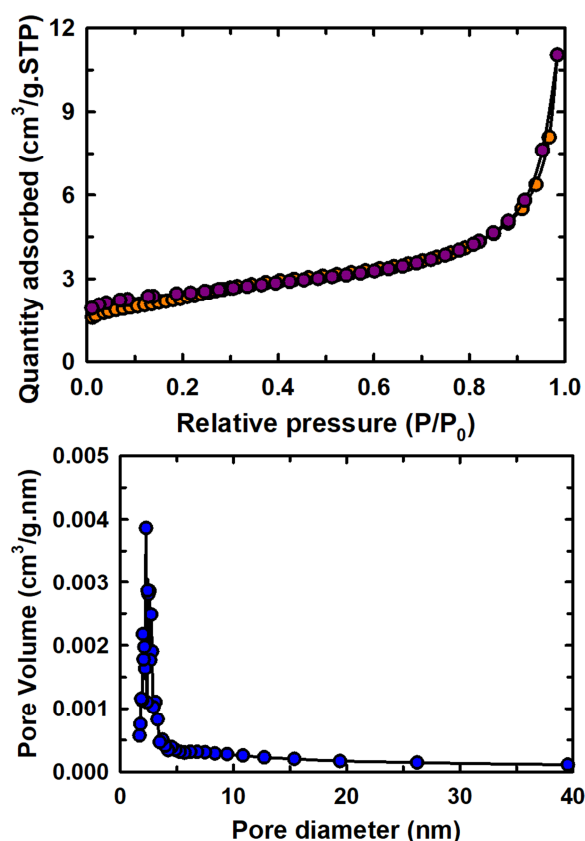


**Fig. 4.** The SEM image of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite.

#### BET Surface Area Analysis

Surface analysis was determined by BET analysis. Fig. 5 shows that the N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms and BJH pore size distribution of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites. The N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms of the as-prepared Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites demonstration type IV characteristics, which is one of the main characteristics of mesoporous materials. Major pore size distribution of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites is ranged from 2.24nm. The BET surface area of the prepared Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites pore volume was 0.01cm<sup>3</sup>/g. The surface area of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites is calculated to be 8.1 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> built on the BET model.

The surface area of BET and mesoporous structure improves the Photo generated electrons and holes toward contribute now photocatalytic activity and deliver more channels on behalf of water molecule to go through, which is important to complete high water and photo reduction efficacy (Zhang *et al.*, 2018).



**Fig. 5.** The BET image of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite.

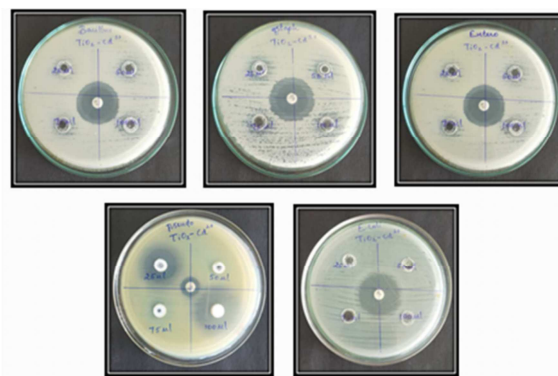
**Table 1.** Pore size and pore volume of TiO<sub>2</sub>/Cd nanocomposite.

Sample	SA (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Pore volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)	Pore size (nm)
TiO <sub>2</sub> -Cd	8.12	0.017	2.24

#### Antibacterial Activity

The antibacterial activity of synthesized Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite have been investigated against Gram-negative bacteria by the well diffusion method (Das *et al.*, 2010; Das *et al.*, 2012; Das *et al.*, 2011; Das *et al.*, 2013). The prepared solutions with different concentrations (such as 25, 50, 75, 100µl) of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite are placed in the broth against *Pseudomonas* as shown in fig. 6, respectively.

Here, the standard antibiotic ampicillin is used as a reference, whereas distilled water is used as a control. The zone of inhibition (ZOI) on the bacterial growth has been observed as shown in fig. 6 respectively, and recorded after 24 h of incubation. The diameter of the ZOI has been measured using a measuring ruler. The Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite showed (Fig. 6) antibacterial activity when tested against the pathogens only gram-negative bacteria such as *Pseudomonas*. The zone of minimum inhibition concentration was measured in a range of 20mm in 25µl and 30mm in 100µl.



**Fig. 6.** Antibacterial activity image of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite.

#### Conclusion

We have synthesized high purity bulk single phase Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite powder using Sol-Gel technique. The formation of this single phase has confirmed by X-ray diffraction for the crystallite size is calculated and found to be Scherrer formula applied to the three highest peak such as 27.1°, 36.0°, 54.5° orientation which is the maximum reflection of the rhombohedral structure of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite. The particle size of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite in 35nm. The UV-visible absorption spectrum of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite showed an absorption onset at 350nm (band gap = 3.04eV). The SEM image shows that the Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite shape such as spherical shape and then crystalline nature. The purity of the synthesized Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite has been confirmed from the energy-dispersive X-ray (EDAX) spectra and then C, O, Ti, Cd, Pt elements are present in Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite.



The weight percentage of Cd is 5.8%, Ti is 51.03%, C is 5.13% and O is 31.75% in Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocomposite. BET image shows that the major pore size distribution of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites ranged from 2.24nm. The BET surface area of the prepared Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites pore volume was 0.01cm<sup>3</sup>/g. The surface area of Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposites is calculated to be 8.1m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> built on the BET model. The Cd-TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocomposite showed that the antibacterial activity when tested against the pathogens only gram-negative bacteria such as *Pseudomonas*. The zone of minimum inhibition concentration was measured in a range of 20mm in 25µl and 30mm in 100µl. From this study it is evident that the synthesized nanocomposite will be a promising material for antibacterial activity also it can be utilized during water treatment process.

#### Acknowledgement

N Daniel Sam (Register No: 19113012031009) acknowledges the research center Anni Velankanni College, Tholayavattam-629157. Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu, India, providing the support for this research work.

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