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# Possible control approaches of the Electro-Fenton process for textile wastewater treatment using on-line monitoring of DO and ORP



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## HIGHLIGHTS

Fe<sup>+2</sup> and Fe<sup>+3</sup> variations.
The DO and ORP profiles can help to identify the overdose of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.
The ANN models can precisely predict the COD removal efficiency

and required Fe<sup>+2</sup> doses.

► The DO and ORP profiles have high correlations with the trends of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>,

## G R A P H I C A L A B S T R A C T

Schematic diagram of the E-Fenton reactor and the correlating monitoring and control units in this study.



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### ABSTRACT

The Electro-Fenton (E-Fenton) process combines the advantages of electrochemical and Fenton processes, which is an effective and popular advanced oxidation process (AOP) for treating textile wastewater. Dynamically regulating the E-Fenton process is still difficult; however, it is critical for reducing operation costs and enhancing process performance. This paper presents the potentials of on-line monitoring of Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) and Dissolved Oxygen (DO) as key parameters to control the E-Fenton process for textile wastewater treatment. Experimental results have shown that the monitored DO and ORP profiles have high correlations with the trends of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, Fe<sup>+2</sup> and Fe<sup>+3</sup> variations, which can help to identify over-dosing of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>. Both the multiple regression and the Artificial Neural Network (ANN) models were applied to predict the required Fe<sup>+2</sup> doses using the monitoring ORP, DO, and COD removal targets. Very precise prediction results with the correlation coefficients ( $R^2$ ) of 0.95–0.99 were performed by the multiple regression models and the ANN models, respectively. As a result, the monitoring of DO and ORP have high potentials to effectively control the E-Fenton and contribute to the benefit of chemical cost savings.

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## 1. Introduction

The Fenton series processes are very popular and effective advanced oxidation processes (AOPs) for many industrial wastewater

\* Corresponding author. Address: Department of Safety, Health and Environmental Engineering, 1, Lienda, Miao-Li city, 360, Taiwan, ROC. Tel.: +886 37 382279; fax: +886 37 382765. treatments [1,2], especially for textile wastewaters which contain high levels of color, refractory organics, and suspended solids (SS) are difficult to treat using conventional wastewater processes [3–6]. However, high consumption of chemical reagents and high production of chemical sludge are typical problems for the conventional Fenton process [1,7]. The E-Fenton process combined the advantages of electrochemical and Fenton processes. The E-Fenton process has been investigated for treating both organic and inorganic pollutants in many industrial wastewaters, and performed

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