

Article

Removal of Tetracycline Hydrochloride from Water by Visible-Light Photocatalysis Using BiFeO₃/BC Materials

Zhengyang Fang^{1,2}, Honghui Jiang¹, Jiamin Gong¹, Hengrui Zhang¹, Xi Hu¹, Ke Ouyang¹, Yuan Guo³, Xinjiang Hu¹, Hui Wang^{1,4,*} and Ping Wang^{1,*}

¹ College of Environmental Science and Engineering, Central South University of Forestry and Technology, Changsha 410004, China

² Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guangzhou 510640, China

³ Institute of Bast Fiber Crops, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Changsha 410205, China

⁴ Faculty of Life Science and Technology, Central South University of Forestry and Technology, Changsha 410004, China

* Correspondence: wanghui@csuft.edu.cn (H.W.); csfuwp@163.com (P.W.)

Abstract: It is widely considered that photocatalysis is an effective and eco-friendly method of dealing with organic pollutants dissolved in water. Nonetheless, photocatalysts still have some drawbacks, such as poor visible-light absorption, easy recombination of photogenerated charge carriers, and limited active sites. In this study, bismuth ferrite coupled with biochar material (BiFeO₃/BC) was simply synthesized, and its photocatalysis reactivity was systemically examined under an irradiation of $\lambda > 400$ nm. The experimental results showed that under a relatively acidic environment, the removal rate of tetracycline hydrochloride reached 95%. Using a variety of characterization investigations, we analyzed the morphology structure and chemical composition of BiFeO₃/BC. In consideration of simple preparation and high response toward visible light, further explorations of BiFeO₃/BC and its properties and optimized degradation conditions are worthwhile.

Keywords: tetracycline hydrochloride; pharmaceutical wastewater; biochar; photocatalysis; kinetics; visible light



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1. Introduction

As an effective antibiotic, tetracycline hydrochloride (TCH) is widely used in China [1]. It has the beneficial effect of disinfecting bacteria, and is therefore applied in producing feeds for livestock and poultry [2]. As a result, wastewater discharged from farms inevitably contains TCH. However, presently applied technologies cannot completely remove this kind of antibiotic. When TCH accumulates in a natural environment, resistance gradually develops in the bacteria. Once these antibiotic-resistant genes (ARGs) are transferred into pathogens, they can pose a threat to human health [3–5]. Therefore, the development of a high-performance and eco-friendly method to eliminate TCH in the environment is imperative.

Photocatalysis has been proven to be an effective method for degrading antibiotics [6–8]. When a photocatalyst is activated by a specific wavelength of irradiation, photo-induced electron pairs are produced on the surface of the catalyst. The pollutant then undergoes a redox reaction and is eventually removed from the solution. However, according to a recent report, the widely applied photocatalyst TiO₂ (P25) needs UV light to be activated; nevertheless, the efficiency of degradation still requires improvement [9]. In another study, doped g-C₃N₄ was used for visible-light-conducted degradation; however, it requires a relatively long illumination time to remove most of the TCH [10]. In the pursuit of high-speed degradation, ZnO/TiO₂ NBT was synthesized; however, the preparation procedure for ZnO/TiO₂ NBT is complicated [11]. For the purpose of solving the problems mentioned above, we chose BiFeO₃ as a photocatalyst to achieve both relatively rapid degradation and

simple preparation. BiFeO_3 has a relatively narrow band gap and responds to visible light. It has been used to deal with organic dyes and pharmaceutical residues such as methylene blue, cefixime, and ciprofloxacin [12–18]. Few past researchers have studied the photodegradation mechanism of TCH by BiFeO_3 . In general, some organic intermediates of smaller molecules were produced during the degradation of TCH, while TOC decreased [19,20].

Carbon-based materials have been shown to be helpful in removing common contaminants in water, such as heavy metal ions and organic acids. Using waste biomass or other natural materials to remove pollutants from water has proven to be a cost-effective method [21–23]. Among them is biochar, which is made through the pyrolysis of animal or plant biomass. A variety of agricultural waste, such as *Eichhornia crassipes* and *Eucalyptus* sawdust, can be used to produce biochar [24–26]. In China, kenaf is widely planted; it is feasible to recycle kenaf waste to achieve environment-friendly material production. Multiple reports have stated that the pyrolysis yields of kenaf fibers typically have the excellent properties of biochar [27–30], such as abundant carbon content, large specific surface area, and high adsorption capacity [31,32]. Moreover, biochar has the ideal optical property of absorbing visible light [33,34]. As a result, compositing biochar with BiFeO_3 may improve photocatalytic efficiency [35–38].

To provide a new method for TCH degradation, we prepared a new bismuth ferrite coupled with biochar material (BiFeO_3/BC). The characteristics of the synthesized material were analyzed, and the photodegradation properties of BiFeO_3/BC toward TCH under visible-light irradiation were systemically studied. Photocatalytic optimal reacting conditions were investigated by varying pH level, BiFeO_3/BC dosage, and initial TCH concentration. Some further considerations regarding the transparency and influences of inorganic ions are also discussed in this paper. The methodology introduced in this study can provide another prospective method for the photocatalytic treatment of pharmaceutical wastewater.

2. Results and Discussions

2.1. Characterization

The morphology and structure of uncoupled biochar (BC), BiFeO_3 , and BiFeO_3/BC were analyzed using scanning electron microscopy (SEM). As shown in Figure 1a, BC presents lamellar structure, which increases the specific surface area of the material. BiFeO_3 (Figure 1b) presents an irregular agglomeration in a crystalline shape [39], which is helpful in binding together slack biochar, although the photocatalytic ability of the interior crystal would probably be restrained [5]. As presented in Figure 1c,d, BiFeO_3/BC was compactly synthesized; pore structures and rod-like clusters can be observed [25], which expands the reaction area. This structure may enable BiFeO_3/BC to reach higher photocatalytic performance. Figure S1 exhibits the N_2 adsorption–desorption isotherms and the results of pore size distribution of the BiFeO_3/BC . The measured specific surface area of the BiFeO_3/BC was $26.739 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$.

The FT-IR spectra of BiFeO_3/BC , BiFeO_3 , and BC are shown in Figure 2. In the absorption curve of BiFeO_3/BC and BiFeO_3 , there is a sharp peak near 550 cm^{-1} , which may be caused by the vibration of the octahedral structure of bismuth [39]. BC, however, has no obvious absorption peak at this wave number. The vibration band at 835 cm^{-1} represents a potential occurrence of a tri-s-triazine ring appearing in organic pyrolysis products [40]. The common vibration bands at nearly 1060 and 1110 cm^{-1} suggest the potential existence of $\nu(\text{C}-\text{O})$ [41]. BiFeO_3/BC exhibits another peak at 1350 cm^{-1} , suggesting that the material contains a C–C bond; it may also contain a C–N bond due to the nitrogen environment in the heating process. All three materials had peaks at wave numbers of about 1620 and 3400 cm^{-1} , which indicate the presence of H–O–H bending vibration and hydroxyl (–OH) groups, respectively [42–45]. In summary, BiFeO_3/BC effectively retained the properties of typical biochar and BiFeO_3 .

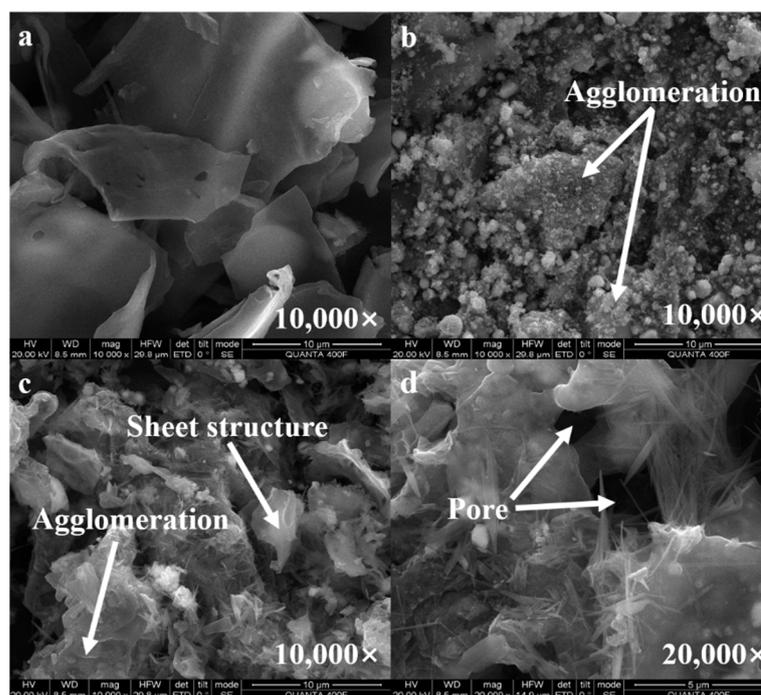


Figure 1. (a) SEM images of uncoupled biochar (BC), (b) bismuth ferrite (BiFeO₃), and (c,d) bismuth ferrite coupled with biochar material (BiFeO₃/BC).

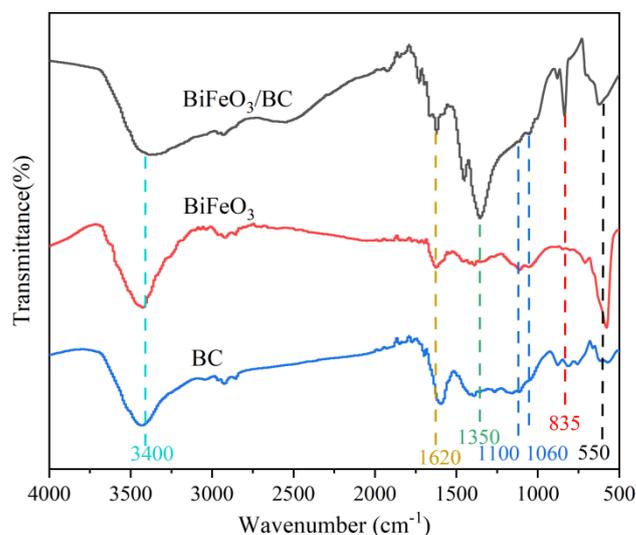


Figure 2. FT-IR spectroscopy of BC, BiFeO₃/BC, and BiFeO₃.

To determine the interaction between BiFeO₃ and the other components in BiFeO₃/BC, the composites were characterized by XPS (Figure 3) and XRD (Figure S2).

Figure 3 displays the XPS spectra of the survey, Bi 4f, C 1s, and O 1s. Bi 4f_{5/2} and Bi 4f_{7/2} wave peaks of the bismuth element (Figure 3b), which are symmetrical at 163.8 and 158.4 eV. This indicates the presence of BiFeO₃ in the material. Also shown in the XRD results (see Figure S2) are several similar absorption peaks between BiFeO₃/BC and pure BiFeO₃, indicating that BiFeO₃/BC has characteristics analogous to those of pure BiFeO₃. Among them, (003), (021), and (300) represent the single-phase perovskite structure of BiFeO₃, which proves that the BiFeO₃ was successfully synthesized using our method. Interestingly, we observed the (201) and (002) signals of Bi₂Fe₄O₉, and (311) and (440) signals of Fe₂O₃ as well [25,37,46,47]. To the best of our knowledge, although Bi₂Fe₄O₉ and Fe₂O₃ seem to be impurities as for BiFeO₃, they are also extensively studied photocatalysts. Interactions

between several active materials and mechanisms of coworking degradation may therefore require further study.

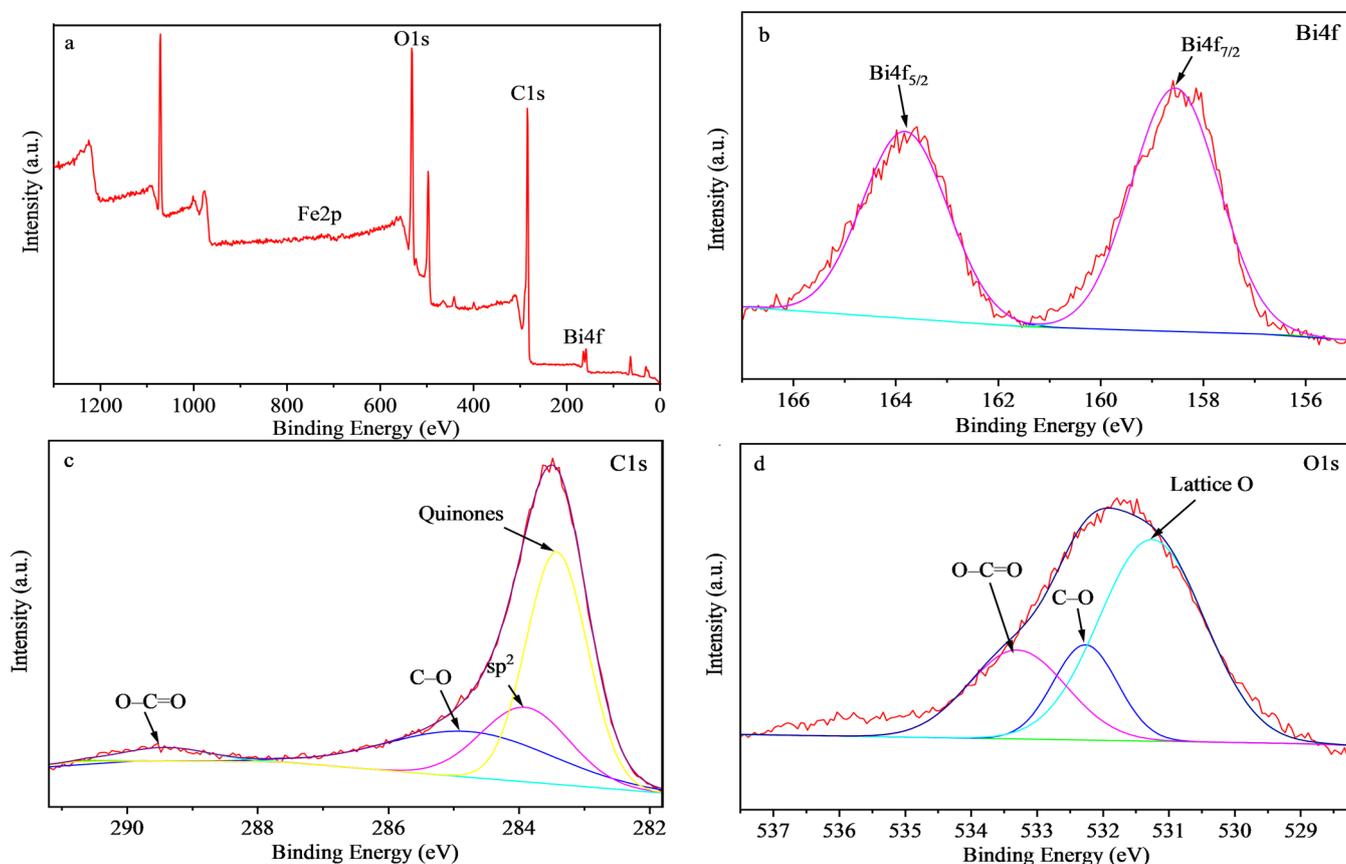


Figure 3. XPS spectra of BiFeO₃/BC (a) survey, (b) Bi 4f, (c) C 1s, and (d) O 1s.

As seen in Figure 3c, a small wave peak exists at 289 eV for the carbon element, indicating the existence of an O–C=O bond in the material [48]. Next, the signal at 285 eV was assigned to the C–O bond, which agreed with the FT-IR analysis [49,50]. In addition, a large peak at 284 eV corresponds to sp² hybrid carbon [47], suggesting the possibility of graphite or graphene in the material. The peak at 283.4 eV, which indicates the existence of quinones, seems to be the strongest peak; a similar result was reported in the literature [51]. Quinones were confirmed to facilitate photodegradation processes by promoting the generation of ¹O₂ and OH• under irradiation [52]. The characteristic peak of the oxygen (Figure 3d) element is relatively wide, and the wave peak at 533.5 eV suggests the presence of an O–C=O bond. The presence of a peak at 532.3 eV further confirms that BiFeO₃/BC includes C–O bonds [26,39]. Finally, the presence of a peak at 531.2 eV indicates a lattice oxygen species [13]. Notably, the combination of lattice oxygen and H₂O can facilitate photocatalysis degradation progress, as they are precursors to free radicals [44]. These results demonstrate that the BiFeO₃/BC composites were properly prepared.

The optical properties of BiFeO₃/BC were analyzed using UV–Vis diffuse reflectance spectroscopy (Figure 4a). The sample was observed to have an effective absorption capacity for visible light. In comparison with previous studies, we determined that the red-shift phenomenon due to binding to the BC improves the overall absorption properties of BiFeO₃/BC for visible light [36,53,54]. After λ = 450 nm, a slight decrease in the absorption of light by BiFeO₃/BC was found, while no such decrease was observed for the BC substrate material. The reason for this phenomenon may be the perovskite structure of BiFeO₃. Typically, a significant decrease in absorption can be observed at around 550 nm [17,19,48]. Combined with the SEM results, we think that the combination of BC with BiFeO₃ achieves efficient absorption of visible light by changing the overall morphology of the material.

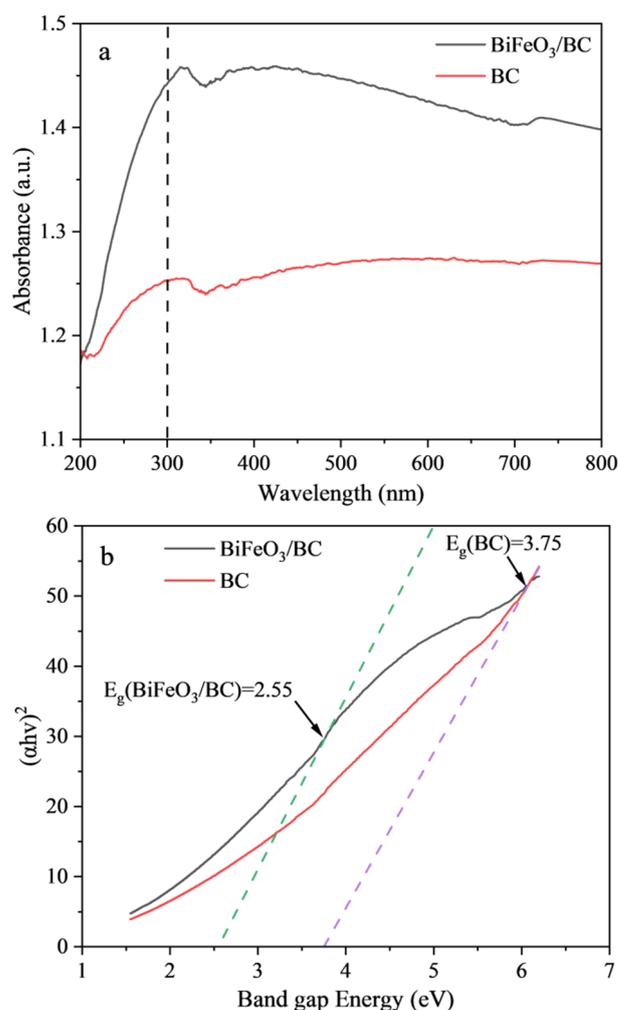


Figure 4. (a) UV-Vis spectra of BiFeO₃/BC and BC; (b) $(\alpha h\nu)^2$ versus $h\nu$ plot of BiFeO₃/BC and BC.

The optical band energy (E_g) of BiFeO₃/BC and BC was measured using Tauc's method (Equation (1)).

$$(\alpha h\nu)^n = A(h\nu - E_g) \quad (1)$$

where α represents the absorption coefficient; h is the Planck constant; ν is the photon frequency; n is determined by the type of optical transition, where the value of n for the direct bandgap semiconductor BiFeO₃ is 2; A is a constant; and E_g represents a band gap, which can be obtained by extrapolating the linear part of the graph to $(\alpha h\nu)^2 = 0$ [17,36]. The estimated band gaps of BiFeO₃/BC and BC were 2.55 eV and 3.75 eV, respectively, as shown in Figure 4b. The combination with BiFeO₃ substantially reduces the band gap of BC and facilitates the overall response of the material to visible light.

2.2. Experimental Section

2.2.1. Effect of pH on Photocatalytic Efficiency

Figure S3 excludes the effect of the photolysis process of TCH itself; even after 3 h of self-degradation, only 6% of TCH was removed from the solution.

Generally, the adsorption of pollutants on catalysts can promote photodegradation efficiency. The adsorption performance was tested to confirm the adsorption capacity of BiFeO₃/BC and the contribution rate of TCH removal by adsorption and photocatalysis. The experimental results are shown in Figure S4. Within 60 min, the adsorption process could remove 10~30% of TCH in the water, indicating that the material has a certain adsorption capacity for TCH, which provides the prerequisite for photocatalytic degradation

on the material surface. To explore the anti-interference ability of BiFeO₃/BC in a complex, practical environment, and to determine the possible influence of BC on photocatalytic performance, we conducted photocatalytic experiments under highly acidic, acidic, neutral, and alkaline conditions.

As shown in Figure 5a, the degradation rate reached more than 70% after 90 min of reaction, except in cases where pH = 7. The degradation rate remained insignificantly high at pH = 4 after irradiation started. As seen in Figure 5b, the BC exhibited almost no photocatalytic activity. This result is consistent with that in a previous report [19]. Combined with the results of the zeta potential analysis (see Figure S5 for more details), it was expected that when the pH turned alkaline, the degradation ratio would further decrease because both the BiFeO₃/BC and TCH were negatively charged [19,55]. Instead, the results indicated that BiFeO₃/BC could maintain much the same degradation efficiency as under acidic environments. Drawing on another similar study, we speculated that inorganic ions affected the degradation process, especially under neutral conditions; the solution contained a certain amount of NaCl attributed to NaOH and HCl used to adjust the pH, which may restrain the degradation process [19].

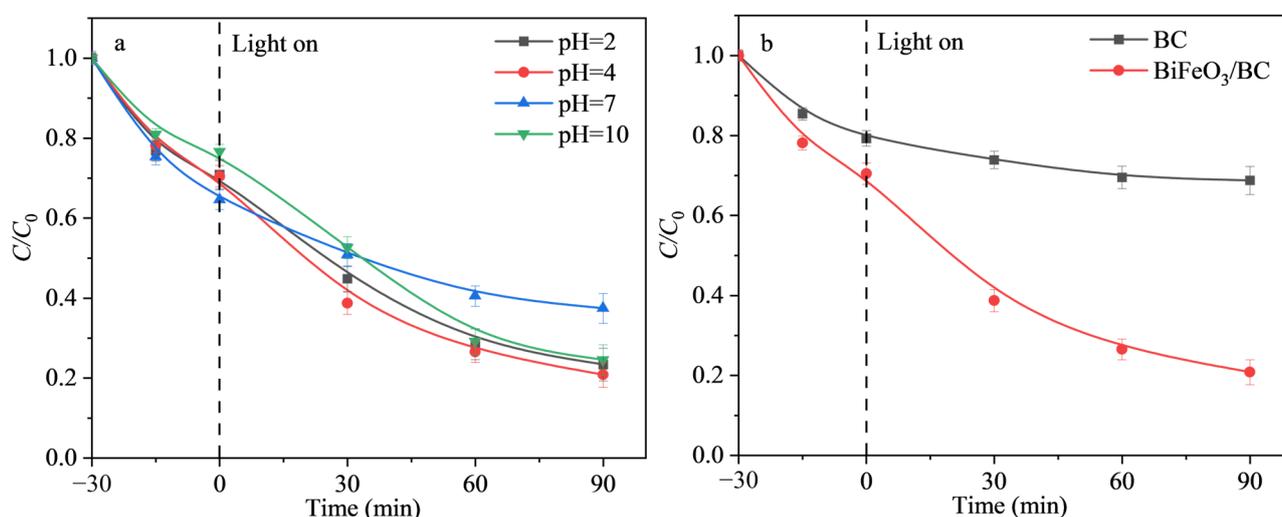


Figure 5. (a) Effect of pH on photocatalytic efficiency. (b) Comparison of photocatalytic degradation capacity of BC and BiFeO₃/BC at pH = 4 (3 replicates; dosage of BiFeO₃/BC or BC = 0.5 g; C_0 (TCH) = 30 mg/L).

2.2.2. Effect of Photocatalysis Dosage

To elucidate the influence of different additions of BiFeO₃/BC on photocatalytic capacity, and to find the best quantity or the most appropriate range, investigations using different photocatalyst dosages were carried out in this study. Figure 6 shows the comparison of efficiency under the conditions of different BiFeO₃/BC dosages.

It was determined that the optimal dosage of BiFeO₃/BC was 0.05 g and that the removal rate was up to 89%. In the range of 0.03~0.1 g, the removal rate could be kept above 80%. Compared with Figure 5, where the initial concentration and catalyst quantity simultaneously reduced, the enhancement in photocatalytic efficiency could be observed. It was also found that the addition of BiFeO₃/BC could change the physical properties of the mixture. In the case of a lower dosage, there were fewer catalyst particles in the solution, which may be more favorable for the transmission of light to the bottom of the container, thus improving the efficiency of the degradation.

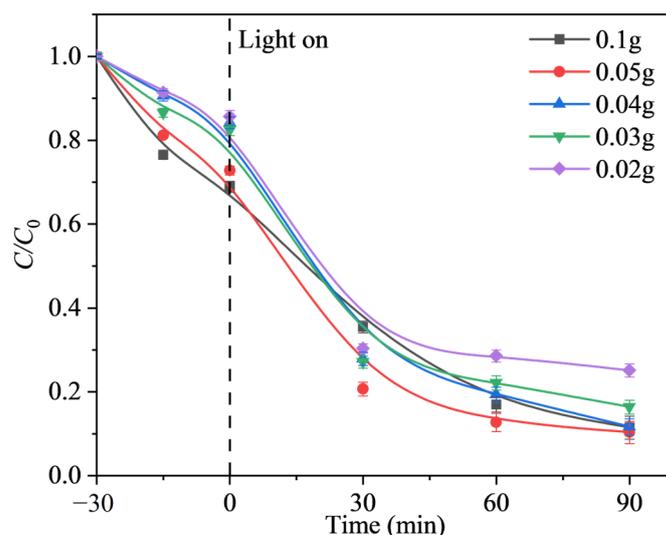


Figure 6. Effect of dosage on photocatalytic efficiency (3 replicates; pH = 4; $C_{0(\text{TCH})} = 10 \text{ mg/L}$).

2.2.3. Effect of Initial TCH Concentration

To determine the suitable initial concentrations of TCH, we carried out experiments under different initial concentrations. Figure 7a exhibits the experimental results of photocatalysis reaction with initial concentrations of 5–30 mg/L of TCH. The degradation reaction kinetics were compared using the pseudo-first-order kinetics model (Figure 7b).

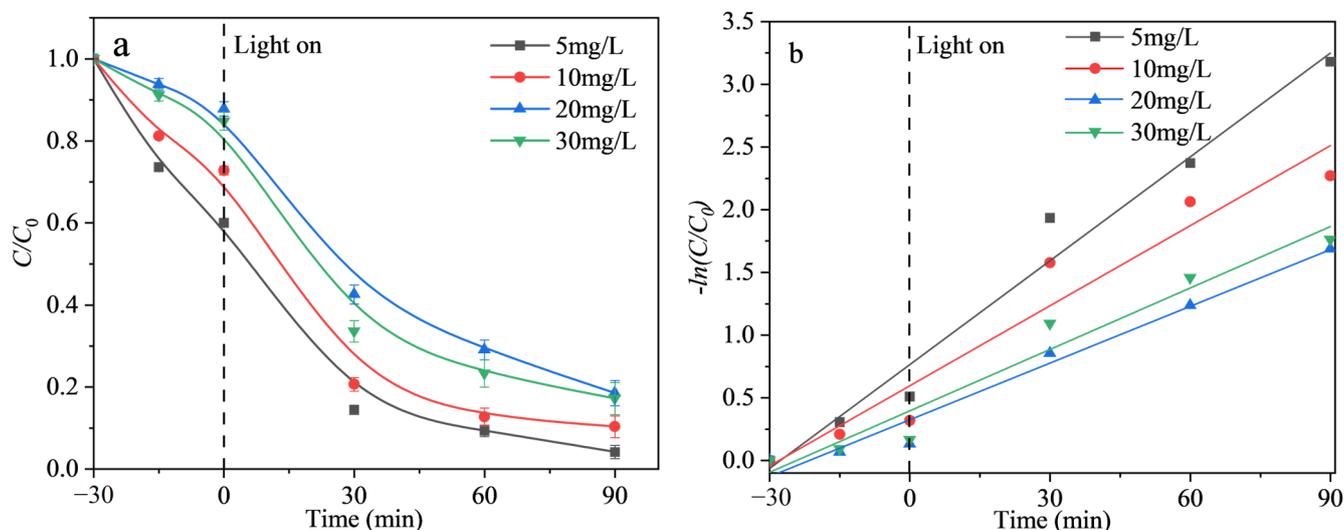


Figure 7. Effect of initial TCH concentrations on photocatalytic efficiency (a) and degradation reaction kinetics (b) (3 replicates; dosage of $\text{BiFeO}_3/\text{BC} = 0.05 \text{ g}$; pH = 4).

The calculated degradation rate constants (k) were 0.02761, 0.02128, 0.01508, and 0.01634 min^{-1} , for 5, 10, 20, and 30 mg/L initial concentration of TCH, respectively. BiFeO_3/BC could achieve more than a 95% photocatalytic elimination rate when the initial concentration was 5 mg/L. Our experimental results showed that BiFeO_3/BC is effective for the photocatalytic treatment of TCH under low concentrations (5–30 mg/L) and relatively acidic environments (pH = 4). Table 1 exhibits the degradation efficiencies under different experimental conditions as reported by several publications. These data indicate that BiFeO_3/BC can achieve effective TCH degradation in a relatively short time in a mild environment. We neither applied UV light nor added H_2O_2 to the solution. In practical applications, this can avoid any possible secondary pollution caused by H_2O_2 .

Table 1. TCH degradation efficiency comparison of different photocatalysts.

Photocatalyst	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	Photocatalyst Dosage	Degradation Rate; Time Duration	Note	Reference
Chitosan/TiO ₂ (P25)	30–40	1.2 g/L	~95%; 360 min	UV	[9]
Bi ₅ O ₇ I/g-C ₃ N ₄	20	1.0 g/L	~95%; 180 min		[10]
ZnO/TiO ₂ NBT	10	0.2 g/L	100%; 20 min	Complexed material	[11]
BFO/BNQDs	10	0.2 g/L	88%; 120 min	H ₂ O ₂ (10 mM)	[19]
BiFeO ₃	40	2.0 g/L	100%; 150 min	UV, H ₂ O ₂ (9.8 mM)	[20]
Bi ₂ WO ₆ /BiFeO ₃ /g-C ₃ N ₄	10	0.1 g/L	83.68%; 45 min	H ₂ O ₂ (8 M)	[55]
BiFeO ₃ /BC	10	0.02–0.12 g/L	88.32%; 90 min		This work

Previous studies have proved that during TCH degradation, some intermediates are simultaneously generated [11,20]. In this study, we found that the total carbon content (TC) and total inorganic carbon content (TIC) increased with photocatalysis processing, while the total organic carbon content (TOC) did not significantly change (see Figure S6). In combination with the above results, the concentration of TCH declined, so the degradation has been ongoing. However, the data pertaining to TOC were disturbed due to the organic carbon contained in BiFeO₃/BC. Therefore, we concluded that TCH was degraded, but complete mineralization was not achieved.

3. Materials and Methods

3.1. Materials and Chemicals

Kenaf (*Hibiscus cannabinus* L.) fiber was provided by the Institute of Bast Fiber Crops and Center of Southern Economic Crops, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (Beijing, China). Bismuth nitrate pentahydrate (Bi(NO₃)₃•5H₂O, AR grade) and ferric nitrate nonahydrate (Fe(NO₃)₃•9H₂O, AR grade) were purchased from Guangdong Guanghua Sci-Tech Co., Ltd. (Shantou, China). Tetracycline hydrochloride (C₂₂H₂₅ClN₂O₈, AR grade) was provided by Macklin Inc. (Shanghai, China). Ultrapure deionized water (H₂O) was used throughout this study.

3.2. Preparation of Bismuth Ferrite Coupled with Biochar Material (BiFeO₃/BC)

BC was prepared via the pyrolysis of kenaf stem. Kenaf stems were washed, dehydrated, and smashed into powder. The powder was then placed in a tube furnace for 30 min at a temperature of 600 °C with a nitrogen atmosphere. It was then cooled to room temperature for obtaining.

BiFeO₃/BC was prepared through the following procedure: The cleaned kenaf stem powder was pretreated with 0.1 M NaOH solution for 5 min at 85 °C. Then, 250 mL of 0.04 M Bi(NO₃)₃ and 250 mL of 0.04 M Fe(NO₃)₃ were added into the mixture, and the hybrid was stirred at 85 °C for 30 min. After dehydrating the mixture, the powder-like substance was pyrolyzed in a tube furnace for 30 min at a temperature of 600 °C in a nitrogen atmosphere. The cooled material was specified as BiFeO₃/BC. The pure BiFeO₃ was prepared using the sol-gel method. The mixture of Bi(NO₃)₃ and Fe(NO₃)₃ was dried to gelatinous matter and placed in a tube furnace, where the pyrolyzing time and temperature were the same as in the preparation of BiFeO₃/BC.

3.3. Characterization

Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was carried out with a Quanta 400F thermal field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM; FEI, Hillsboro, OR, USA). The infrared spectroscopy was performed on a Nicolet 5700 Fourier transform infrared spectrometer (FT-IR; Thermo Nicolet Corporation, Waltham, MA, USA). The phase composition of

the material was analyzed by X-ray diffraction on a D8 Advance diffractometer with Cu K α radiation (XRD; Bruker, Billerica, MA, USA). Chemical bonds and identities were analyzed on an ESCALAB 250XI X-ray photoelectron spectrometer (XPS; Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA). Zeta potential tests were performed with a Zetasizer Nano ZS zeta potential analyzer (Zeta potential, Malvern Panalytical, Malvern, UK). Ultraviolet–visible diffuse reflectance spectra of samples were analyzed with a UV-3600i plus UV–Vis spectrometer (UV-DRS, Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) at a wavelength range of 200–800 nm with BaSO₄ as the reference. The Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) specific surface area and pore size of BiFeO₃/BC were measured with a 3 Flex analyzer (BET, Micromeritics Instruments, Norcross, GA, USA). Total organic carbon (TOC) in the photocatalysis process was measured with a TOC-V CPH analyzer (TOC, Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan).

3.4. Photocatalytic Degradation of TCH

All experiments were carried out at 25 °C under magnetic stirring. A certain amount of BiFeO₃/BC (0.02~0.5 g) was added to a quartz reactor containing 250 mL of TCH (5~30 mg/L) solution. The pH conditions were adjusted with 0.01 M HCl and 0.01 M NaOH. Prior to the irradiation procedure, the solution was placed inside a black box without illumination for 30 min to reach equilibrium of adsorption–desorption. During the adsorption procedure, 5 mL samples were taken out every 15 min. All batch experiments were conducted in triplicate.

Photocatalysis assessments were carried out afterward with a 300 W xenon source (CEL-HXF300, Beijing China Education Au-light Co. Ltd., Beijing, China). A UV filter ($\lambda > 400$ nm) was placed above the quartz reactor, and the total illumination duration was 90 min. During the photocatalysis period, 5 mL samples were taken out every 30 min. All samples were filtered through a 0.22 μ m polyether sulfone (PES) syringe filter. The concentrations of TCH residues were analyzed with a UV–Vis spectrophotometer (752N, Shanghai INESA Analytical Instrument Co., Ltd., Shanghai, China).

To assess potential impacts, a series of control experiments was designed. Adsorption tests were conducted by adding 0.5 g BC or BiFeO₃/BC in 30 mg/L TCH solution, with the same pH-altering procedure as in the adsorption tests. The mixture was then positioned without exposure to light for 6 h. A photolysis measurement was taken, 10 mg/L of TCH was irradiated, and the remaining concentration was examined after certain intervals. All analytical methods applied in the control tests were the same as those described in the photocatalysis experiments.

After determining the optimal conditions through batch experiments, a TOC experiment was conducted to evaluate the type of carbon content in the solution. The total inorganic carbon (TIC) was obtained through Equation (2):

$$TIC = TC - TOC \quad (2)$$

where *TC* represents total carbon, and *TOC* represents total organic carbon. The change in carbon content was assessed by calculating the concentration ratio (*C/C*₀) before and after the reaction.

4. Conclusions

In summary, novel BiFeO₃/BC photocatalysts were synthesized using a simple sol-gel method. The results of the characterization analysis showed that BiFeO₃/BC was successfully synthesized and has a good response in the visible light range. The results of the batch experiments showed that the material maintained good performance in a wide range of pH, and the degradation rate of TCH reached approximately 80% or higher in the range of pH 2–10. The presence of some inorganic ions and changes in the light transmission properties of the solution due to the amount of material added may have had an impact on photocatalytic efficiency. In contrast to other studies, our study demonstrates that BiFeO₃/BC enables the rapid degradation of TCH without additional UV light and

hydrogen peroxide. It is thought that BiFeO₃/BC is a promising photocatalyst for the degradation of TCH by visible light.

Supplementary Materials: The following supporting information can be downloaded at: <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/catal12111461/s1>, Figure S1. (a) Plot of nitrogen adsorption–desorption isotherms and (b) pore size distribution curve of BiFeO₃/BC; Figure S2. XRD patterns of synthesized BiFeO₃/BC, synthesized BiFeO₃, and indications of Fe₂O₃, BiFeO₃, Bi₂Fe₄O₉; Figure S3. Photolysis curve of TCH (3 replicates; pH = 4; C_{0(TCH)} = 10 mg/L); Figure S4. Experimental results of TCH adsorption using BC and BiFeO₃/BC at different pH values (dosage of catalysts: 0.5 g; C_{0(TCH)} = 30 mg/L); Figure S5. Zeta potential of BiFeO₃/BC materials as a function of pH; Figure S6. TOC photocatalytic removal efficiencies of TCH (dosage of BiFeO₃/BC: 0.5 g; pH = 4; C_{0(TCH)} = 10 mg/L); Figure S7. Comparison of the degradation efficiency of TCH after 90 min of reaction at different pH values. (3 replicates; dosage of BiFeO₃/BC: 0.5 g; C_{0(TCH)} = 30 mg/L); Figure S8. Comparison of the degradation rate of TCH after 90 min of reaction at different dosing rates (3 replicates; pH = 4; C_{0(TCH)} = 10 mg/L); Figure S9. Comparison of the degradation rate of TCH after 90 min of reaction at different initial concentrations. (3 replicates; dosage of BiFeO₃/BC = 0.05 g; pH = 4). References [17,19,56–58] are cited in Supplementary Materials.

Author Contributions: Z.F.: investigation, methodology, writing—original draft., writing—review and editing. H.J.: writing—review and editing. J.G.: writing—review and editing. H.Z.: investigation. X.H. (Xi Hu): writing—review and editing. K.O.: writing—review and editing. Y.G.: writing—review and editing. X.H. (Xinjiang Hu): resources and writing—review and editing. H.W.: methodology, resources, writing—original draft, project administration, writing—review and editing. P.W.: funding acquisition, supervision, project administration. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Data Availability Statement: Data available on request from the authors.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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