

Supplementary Materials

Optimization Method of the Solvothermal Parameters Using Box–Behnken Experimental Design—The Case Study of ZnO Structural and Catalytic Tailoring

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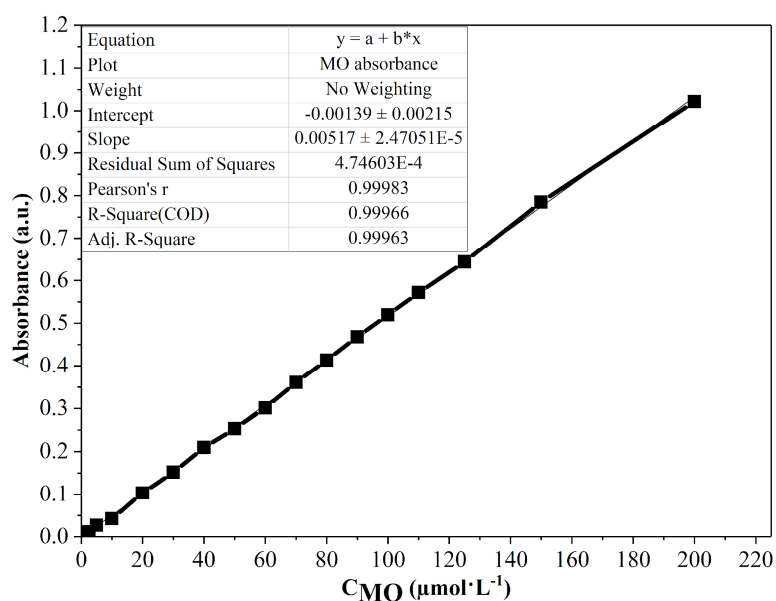


Figure S1. The calibration curve of methyl orange (MO) absorbance at 464 nm at different concentrations (1–200 μM).

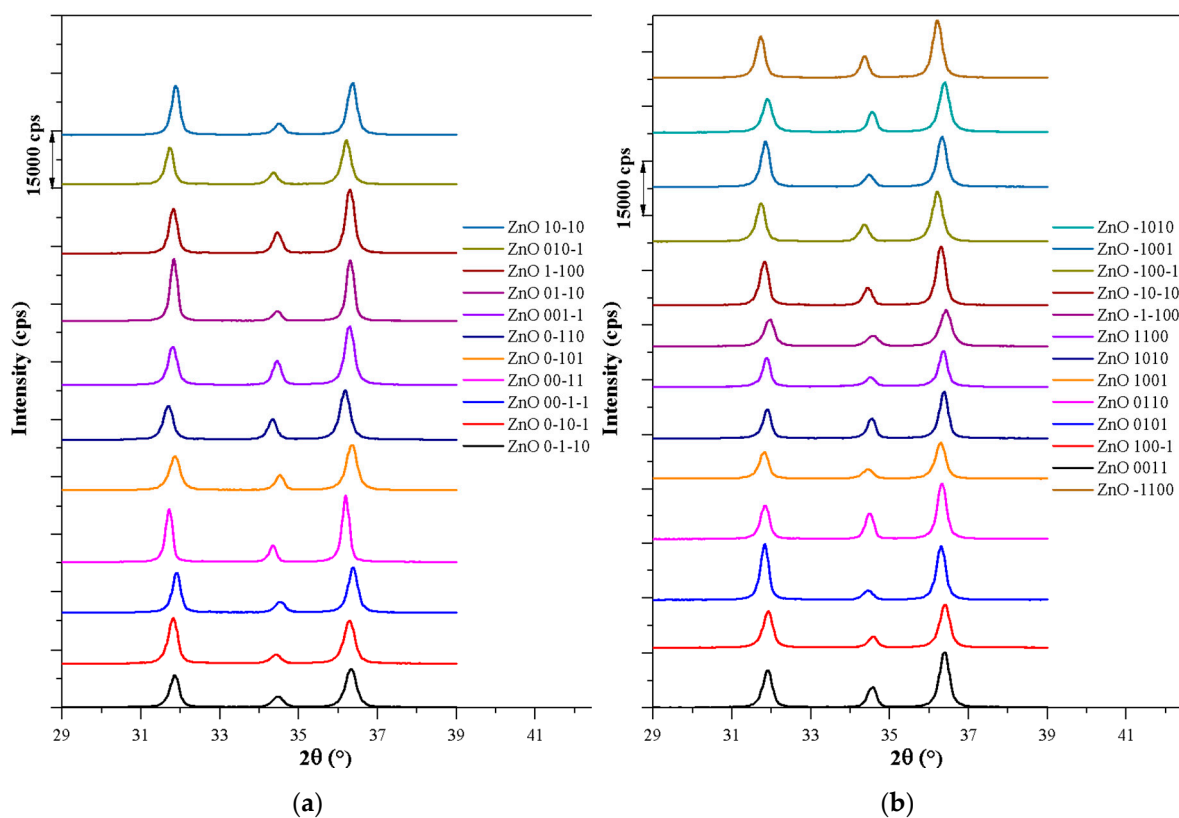


Figure S2. The X-ray diffractograms of all the synthesized samples according to the Box-Behnken Design (BBD) model.

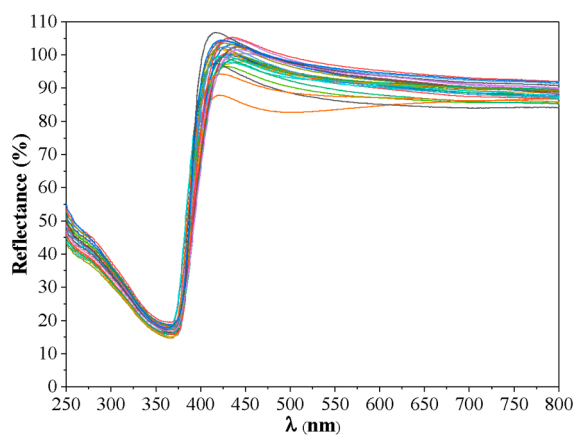


Figure S3. The histograms of residuals of the fitted full quadratic model for photodegradation efficiency (PDE) and $r_{(002)/(100)}$.

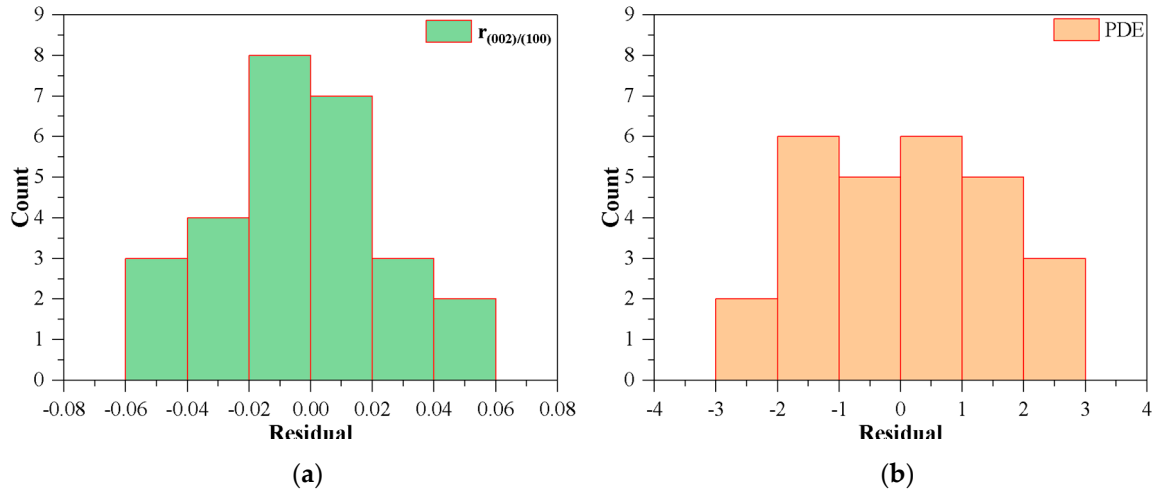


Figure S4. The histograms of residuals of the fitted full quadratic model: (a) for PDE; (b) for $r_{(002)/(100)}$.

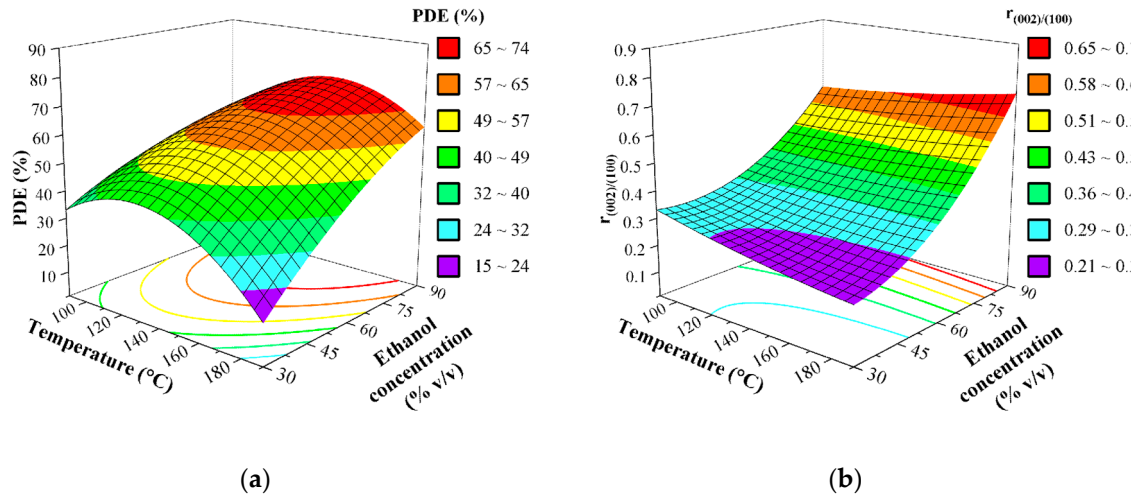


Figure S5. Effect of interaction between temperature (X₁) and ethanol concentration (X₃): (a) on the PDE; (b) $r_{(002)/(100)}$ On the of ZnO as 3D response surface.

Table S1. ANOVA results for quadratic model of ZnO using Box–Behnken design.

| Coded Coefficients | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|------|
| Term | PDE | | | | | I(002)/(100) | | | | |
| | Coef | SE Coef | T-value | P-value | VIF | Coef | SE Coef | T-value | p-value | VIF |
| Costant | 62.27 | 1.24 | 50.05 | 0 | | 0.361 | 0.023 | 16.00 | 0.000 | |
| X ₁ | -2.142 | 0.622 | -3.44 | 0.005 | 1 | -0.007 | 0.011 | -0.61 | 0.551 | 1 |
| X ₂ | -4.425 | 0.622 | -7.11 | 0 | 1 | -0.061 | 0.011 | -5.38 | 0.000 | 1 |
| X ₃ | 15.925 | 0.622 | 25.6 | 0 | 1 | 0.205 | 0.011 | 18.21 | 0.000 | 1 |
| X ₄ | -3.025 | 0.622 | -4.86 | 0 | 1 | -0.023 | 0.011 | -2.04 | 0.064 | 1 |
| X ₁ ² | -17.046 | 0.933 | -18.27 | 0 | 1.25 | 0.012 | 0.017 | 0.72 | 0.484 | 1.25 |
| X ₂ ² | -5.696 | 0.933 | -6.1 | 0 | 1.25 | 0.041 | 0.017 | 2.45 | 0.031 | 1.25 |
| X ₃ ² | -5.021 | 0.933 | -5.38 | 0 | 1.25 | 0.106 | 0.017 | 6.24 | 0.000 | 1.25 |
| X ₄ ² | -9.521 | 0.933 | -10.2 | 0 | 1.25 | -0.034 | 0.017 | -2.02 | 0.066 | 1.25 |
| X ₁ × X ₂ | -3.42 | 1.08 | -3.18 | 0.008 | 1 | -0.050 | 0.020 | -2.56 | 0.025 | 1 |
| X ₁ × X ₃ | 6.62 | 1.08 | 6.15 | 0 | 1 | 0.053 | 0.020 | 2.73 | 0.018 | 1 |
| X ₁ × X ₄ | 2.73 | 1.08 | 2.53 | 0.026 | 1 | 0.060 | 0.020 | 3.07 | 0.010 | 1 |
| X ₂ × X ₃ | -13.43 | 1.08 | -12.46 | 0 | 1 | 0.003 | 0.020 | 0.14 | 0.890 | 1 |
| X ₂ × X ₄ | -3.43 | 1.08 | -3.18 | 0.008 | 1 | -0.002 | 0.020 | -0.12 | 0.910 | 1 |
| X ₃ × X ₄ | 7.17 | 1.08 | 6.66 | 0 | 1 | -0.046 | 0.020 | -2.37 | 0.035 | 1 |

Table S2. Experimental runs of Box–Behnken design with the comparison between predicted and experimental photocatalytic degradation efficiency.

| Run number | Factors value | | | | PDE | |
|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | X ₁ | X ₂ | X ₃ | X ₄ | Experimental [%] | Predicted [%] |
| | °C | M | % <i>v/v</i> | h | | |
| 1 | 90 | 0.068 | 60 | 8 | 42.2 | 42.64 |
| 2 | 90 | 0.204 | 60 | 8 | 39.3 | 40.64 |
| 3 | 90 | 0.136 | 30 | 8 | 31.3 | 33.00 |
| 4 | 90 | 0.136 | 90 | 8 | 52.8 | 51.62 |
| 5 | 90 | 0.136 | 60 | 4 | 45.5 | 43.57 |
| 6 | 90 | 0.136 | 60 | 12 | 32.6 | 32.05 |
| 7 | 190 | 0.068 | 60 | 8 | 44.9 | 45.18 |
| 8 | 190 | 0.204 | 60 | 8 | 28.3 | 29.49 |
| 9 | 190 | 0.136 | 30 | 8 | 13.1 | 15.45 |
| 10 | 190 | 0.136 | 90 | 8 | 61.1 | 60.57 |
| 11 | 190 | 0.136 | 60 | 4 | 36.3 | 33.82 |
| 12 | 190 | 0.136 | 60 | 12 | 34.3 | 33.20 |
| 13 | 140 | 0.068 | 30 | 8 | 28.9 | 26.58 |
| 14 | 140 | 0.068 | 90 | 8 | 86.7 | 85.29 |
| 15 | 140 | 0.068 | 60 | 4 | 48.3 | 51.05 |
| 16 | 140 | 0.068 | 60 | 12 | 51.8 | 51.82 |
| 17 | 140 | 0.204 | 30 | 8 | 46.2 | 44.58 |
| 18 | 140 | 0.204 | 90 | 8 | 50.3 | 49.59 |
| 19 | 140 | 0.204 | 60 | 4 | 47.9 | 49.05 |
| 20 | 140 | 0.204 | 60 | 12 | 37.7 | 36.12 |
| 21 | 140 | 0.136 | 30 | 4 | 42.8 | 41.96 |
| 22 | 140 | 0.136 | 30 | 12 | 21.1 | 21.54 |
| 23 | 140 | 0.136 | 90 | 12 | 65.3 | 67.75 |
| 24 | 140 | 0.136 | 90 | 4 | 58.3 | 59.48 |
| 25 | 140 | 0.136 | 60 | 8 | 61.8 | 62.23 |
| 26 | 140 | 0.136 | 60 | 8 | 62.1 | 62.23 |
| 27 | 140 | 0.136 | 60 | 8 | 62.9 | 62.23 |

Table S3. Experimental runs of Box–Behnken design with the comparison between predicted and experimental ratio of intensities of diffraction peaks (0 0 2) and (1 0 0).

| Run number | Factors value | | | | PDE | |
|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | X ₁ | X ₂ | X ₃ | X ₄ | Experimental [%] | Predicted [%] |
| | °C | M | % <i>v/v</i> | h | | |
| 1 | 90 | 0.068 | 60 | 8 | 0.406 | 0.429 |
| 2 | 90 | 0.204 | 60 | 8 | 0.444 | 0.407 |
| 3 | 90 | 0.136 | 30 | 8 | 0.351 | 0.332 |
| 4 | 90 | 0.136 | 90 | 8 | 0.619 | 0.632 |
| 5 | 90 | 0.136 | 60 | 4 | 0.429 | 0.426 |
| 6 | 90 | 0.136 | 60 | 12 | 0.255 | 0.259 |
| 7 | 190 | 0.068 | 60 | 8 | 0.501 | 0.515 |
| 8 | 190 | 0.204 | 60 | 8 | 0.339 | 0.293 |
| 9 | 190 | 0.136 | 30 | 8 | 0.225 | 0.213 |
| 10 | 190 | 0.136 | 90 | 8 | 0.706 | 0.723 |
| 11 | 190 | 0.136 | 60 | 4 | 0.292 | 0.292 |
| 12 | 190 | 0.136 | 60 | 12 | 0.358 | 0.365 |
| 13 | 140 | 0.068 | 30 | 8 | 0.328 | 0.365 |
| 14 | 140 | 0.068 | 90 | 8 | 0.802 | 0.764 |
| 15 | 140 | 0.068 | 60 | 4 | 0.492 | 0.446 |
| 16 | 140 | 0.068 | 60 | 12 | 0.414 | 0.404 |
| 17 | 140 | 0.204 | 30 | 8 | 0.197 | 0.238 |
| 18 | 140 | 0.204 | 90 | 8 | 0.682 | 0.648 |
| 19 | 140 | 0.204 | 60 | 4 | 0.320 | 0.329 |
| 20 | 140 | 0.204 | 60 | 12 | 0.233 | 0.278 |
| 21 | 140 | 0.136 | 30 | 4 | 0.206 | 0.203 |
| 22 | 140 | 0.136 | 30 | 12 | 0.297 | 0.249 |
| 23 | 140 | 0.136 | 90 | 12 | 0.582 | 0.562 |
| 24 | 140 | 0.136 | 90 | 4 | 0.676 | 0.700 |
| 25 | 140 | 0.136 | 60 | 8 | 0.361 | 0.357 |
| 26 | 140 | 0.136 | 60 | 8 | 0.371 | 0.357 |
| 27 | 140 | 0.136 | 60 | 8 | 0.350 | 0.357 |