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Nano Technology Application to Enhance the Emission Control by Using Activated Carbons Modified by Magnesium Oxide



Abstract: - One of the fundamental processes for planet safety is the catalytic conversion of carbon monoxide (CO). CO has even been named one of the unseen toxins of this century. Inhaling CO can lead to hypoxic damage, neurological break, and even death. CO poisoning decays greenery life and accumulations in global warming and ozone layer depletion. CO is created in the atmosphere by the partial oxidation of carbon-containing mixtures. The primary origin of CO emissions is vehicles. Therefore, oxidizing contaminated CO to nonpoisonous CO₂ under ambient conditions is essential for life protection in multiple applications. Additionally, low-temperature CO oxidation is crucial in reducing emissions at the cold start of an internal explosion in the engine. For controlling pollution, the available methods are pre-pollution control and post-pollution. This project depends on the post-pollution control method in Peugeot ROA automobiles using Activated Carbons Modified by Magnesium Oxide as a catalyst. An innovative catalytic converter design activated carbons modified by magnesium oxide nanoparticles as a catalyst to control pollution with different NPs loadings and carbon structures. This proposed method aims for the reduction environmental pollution contributed by automobiles. It involves using more affordable materials than the existing rhodium nanoparticles, platinum, and palladium technique. The dispersion states of the grafted nanoparticles were examined with scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and X-ray diffraction analysis (XRD), confirming the correlation between high grafted ratio states and improved properties. The nanocomposites' desired properties were significantly enhanced when the graft density was high.

Keywords: CO₁ capture, CO₁ utilization, Carbon Black, Nanoparticles, Engine, Catalytic Converter, magnesium oxide, Activated Carbons, Emission.

I. INTRODUCTION

Air pollution reduction is most important to public health because every person breathes approximately 23000 times daily.¹⁻³ Contaminated air brings out physically unfavorable effects and unwanted biological and chemical impacts.⁴⁻⁶ The produced air pollution might be considered an extra additive to our atmosphere of any material that negatively impacts life on our planet.³ The primary pollutants of vehicles are carbon monoxide, partially and unburned hydrocarbon, nitroxides, and lead oxides.^{7,8} For air pollution, not only automobiles are responsible but also other sources such as electric power generating stations and industrial and domestic fuel intake; the industrial process also contributes severely to the contamination of our planet.⁹⁻¹¹ Hence, serious attempts must be made to preserve our environment from degradation. Facts have proved that the discharge of many air pollutants will negatively affect public health and the natural environment. The primary pollutant discharges from automobile engines include hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, and sulfur oxides.¹²⁻¹⁵

Hydrocarbons (HC) are burned or partially burned class of fuel and are considered poisonous.^{16,17} Hydrocarbons are a substantial contributor to pollution and a significant problem in civilized areas.¹⁸ The region suffered prolonged hydrocarbons contributing to several health diseases.^{19,20} Laws ruling hydrocarbons differ according to motor type and country.^{21,22} In some cases, "non-methane hydrocarbons" are controlled, while "total hydrocarbons" are kept in others.^{23,24} Technology for a single application may not be appropriate for an application that must meet an aggregate hydrocarbon bar in that region.²⁵ Methane is not directly toxic but is challenging to break down in the fuel vent lines, and the charcoal canister is intended to collect, contain, and direct fuel vapors either to the fuel tank or, after the engine has been started and warmed up, to the air intake to be burned in the engine.²⁶⁻²⁹

The incomplete combustion of different processes produces carbon monoxide (CO). Carbon monoxide attaches to hemoglobin responsible for carrying the oxygen in red blood cells, where oxygen (O₂) would attach.³⁰⁻³² The bonding of CO bans O₂ and decreases the hemoglobin's capability to release already-bound oxygen, causing the red blood cells to be inadequate. Inhaling CO affects the oxygen level in the blood, and overexposure to it may be fatal.^{33,34} Rehabilitation is performed by limiting the slow release of CO and the generation of new hemoglobin, and comprehensive recovery from moderate to severe CO poisoning may take hours or days.^{35,36}

Particles of the micrometer size that makeup smoke are particulate matter.³⁷⁻³⁹ This particulate matter has been connected to cardiovascular diseases.⁴⁰ It has adverse effects on health, including but not limited to cancer and respiratory disease. Volatile organic compounds are natural mixtures of organic chemicals that commonly have a limit not exactly or equivalent to 250 °C of boiling points, formaldehyde, for instance, comes from chlorofluorocarbons.⁴¹ Unpredictable natural mixtures are a subsection of hydrocarbons referenced independently due to their threats to general well-being.^{1,2,25}

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Nanoparticles are molecular assemblies between 1 and 100 nm in diameter in at least one direction.⁴²⁻⁴⁶ The physicochemical properties of these materials are effectively changed compared to bulk materials that include microparticles and larger particles.⁴⁷ These unusual properties may lead to different environmental fates and behaviors than their bulk counterparts.⁴⁸ Due to the widespread use of nanoparticles in recent years, concerns about their possible release into the environment and their potential effects on living organisms have increased.

The main goal of the current study has been to know that activated carbon is a carbon-activated and carefully controlled oxidation process to improve carbon's pores structure. Activated carbon has a height of volume to adsorbing porosity of any material available in humankind. The improper structure of carbons in a high degree of porosity and over a broad range of pore sizes, visible cracks to gaps, and voids of molecular dimensions the determined structure of carbon will give it an extensive surface area which undergoes the carbon to absorb a considerable amount of carbon molecules. One of the most promising solid base catalysts is Magnesium Oxide (MgO), which has attracted much attention because of its superior performance. The extent of catalytic properties of MgO is highly controlled by its morphology, particle size, crystallinity, and surface area. The MgO has shown an excellent CO₂ ability at high temperatures, which is more than 300 °C.

II. EXPERIMENTAL:

Materials. Magnesium Oxide (Mg (NO₃)₂·6H₂O) was purchased from ThermoFisher Scientific. Activated Charcoal with different sizes of honeycomb mesh (1.5, 3, 5) mm. All other reagents were used as received.

Preparation of Magnesium Oxide Nanoparticles. Weight of Mg (NO₃)₂·6H₂O was depend of honeycomb weight with three type of proportion (10% and 20% and 30% of Charcoal weight) first dissolved into a 200- ml flask and stirred slowly. The solution pH reached 10, while the solution was kept vigorously agitated for 1 hour by a magnet shaker. During the reaction of Mg (NO₃)₂·6H₂O with NaOH, Mg(OH)₂ precipitates are formed. The suspension was separated from the solution by centrifuging at 5000 rpm for 7 min. After that, the resulting gel was washed twice with DI water and then dissolved NPs.⁴⁶

Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS) Analysis: The particle size distribution and zeta potential of MgO nanoparticles were monitored using DLS measurements which determine particle size by measuring the rate of fluctuations in the laser light intensity scattered by particles as they diffuse through the solvent. A particle size analyzer (Beckman Delsa Nano C) was used to measure and confirm nanoparticle size distribution.

Preparation of Activated Carbon Grafted with MgO. was sprayed on the top of the carbon cube. The resulting grafted carbon was evaporated in an oven at 100 °C for 24 h, and, finally, the sample was calculated by an electric furnace at 400 °C for 2 hours.

X-ray diffraction analysis (XRD):

We use copper target material in the tube to produce an x-ray with a 1.5406-angstrom wavelength. We use a K alpha one beam of copper as an X-ray source acquired after filtering the convexity of the X-ray using divergence slits. After the beams interact with the sample in the sample holder, the reflected beam goes through some slits again, and a monochromatic filter it to avoid the entering of K beta and K alpha 2, then the detector counts the number of photons received, and it displayed as a spectrum in our monitor screen.

Emission test. Peugeot ROA engine capacity of 1587 cc, four cylinders, and a complete ejection fuel system was assembled and used with the gasoline fuel to generate the gases. All cooling and exhaust gases system was used with a gas analyzer made of BK-EA401, which analyses HC, CO₁, CO₂, and O₂.

BK-EA401 automotive emission analyzer operation method:

1-preheating: put power plug into AC220v test switch is off "power source" switch is on. The LED display will show 401, and the analyzer is under preheating; after 5 seconds it shows, it shows time (year, month) and (date, hour) and (minute, second).

The time could be changed after 20 minutes it is on; the analyzer shows time and is automatically changed into measuring from preheating at the moment the LED display shows the following:

HC	0 PPMvol
CO	0.00% vol
CO ₂	0.0% vol
O ₂	xx,xx% vol

If the process wants to be ahead, then can press the "RST" key

2- After the analyzer automatically rests and before the formal operation, the step of self-calibrating for O₂ are the following:

The "TEST" switch on the front panel is on, and press "CLP," wait for two minutes, and simultaneously press "V" and "D" two keys, make O₂ show "20.9". Last, put "TEST" at the position so self-calibrating is finished because oxygen in the sensor output has a floating range; this procedure often be repeated to ensure the precision of oxygen density.

3- Firmly connect the sampling hose to the input with a 5 m flexible hose (Do not pre-insert the sampling hose into the exhauster. After preheating is over and begin to measure, insert it into the exhauster).

Measuring the sample by connecting the sampling hose to the input on the back front with 5m plastic flexible hose. Before measuring, put the "TEST" switch in the on position and keep the sampling hose in the fresh air. Press the "CLR" key, and fresh air directly goes into the measurement chamber (Not through sampling)

Table1. Gas Analyzer specifications.

Gas	HC/CO/CO ₂ /O ₂	Model NO	BK-EA401
Gas Analyzers	Automotive Exhaust Analyzer	Type	Electrochemical Gas Analyzer
Stability	Moment Drift $\leq\pm 3\%$	Measuring Range	Hc 0~10000*10 ⁻⁶ (Ppm)Vol Co:0~10*10 ⁻² (%)Vol CO ₂ : 0
Response Time	95% Response Is Not More Than 10 Seconds	Repeatability	2%
Power Supply	AC 110/220V $\pm 10\%$, 50/60Hz	Preheating Time	8min (Preheating 3min Emergency Detection)
Gross Weight	12 kg	Packing Size	680*385*265mm
Specification	Automobile Exhaust Analyzer	Transport Package	International Standard

Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM):

The morphology of films was observed by scanning electron microscopy (SEM, Model JEOL JSM-6460 LA). The films were frozen in liquid nitrogen and then snapped immediately. All the specimens' samples were fixed on stubs with double-sided tape and then sputtered with gold in a sputter coater. Then, the specimens were examined with a scanning electron microscope under high vacuum conditions and at an accelerating voltage of 15.0 kV to cross-section (2000 x) Design the Shell dimension for the container and read the emission before and after the treatment. Manufacturing the shell for the container. Analysis of the emission Exhaust Gases before and after using the Activated Charcoal by the exhaust gas Analyzer with different sizes of honeycomb mesh (1.5,3,5) mm.

III.Result and Discussion:

In general, the ultimate characteristics of the materials are greatly influenced by all of the nanoparticles used in a nanocomposite. In order to create the composites needed to evaluate the impact of MgO NPs on the vehicle engine's ability to reduce CO, pre-synthetic activated carbon black was combined with MgO. MgO NPs were loaded and dispersed across the surface of carbon black to accomplish this. This work's primary goal was to demonstrate the integration of carbon black and MgO NPs. Based on hydrodynamic diameter, the particle size of MgO nanoparticles was examined by DLS using a particle size analyzer (Fig. XXX). The average hydrodynamic diameter, as shown by the intensity distribution histogram, is 20 nm. The polydispersity index (PDI) of 0.293 indicates the monodispersed uniform of the particles. SEM studies further showed the size. The interaction between nanoparticles and molecules, specifically systems like carbon black, depends significantly on the surface charge of the nanoparticles. Following confirmation of the nanoparticle's size, it was exposed to SEM for in-depth morphological examinations.

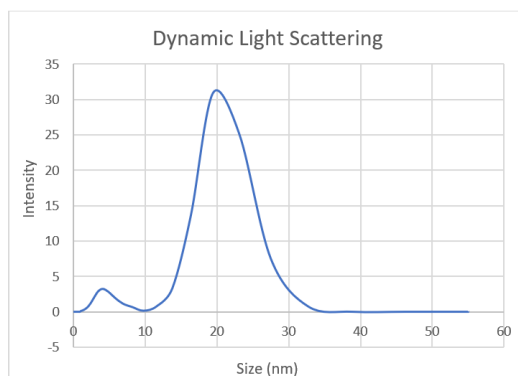


Figure 1. DLS histogram showing the intensity distribution of MgO nanoparticles for particle size analysis.

XRD analysis is carried out between 10 and 80 degrees. Figure 2 displays the results of XRD analyses of MgO nanoparticles. It displays the peaks showing how the MgO nanoparticles' polycrystalline cubic structure formed. The XRD pattern does not contain any additional impurity phases. The excellent crystallinity of the produced material is visible in the XRD pattern. Using (002) reflection to calculate particle size, the mean crystallite size is 27 nm.

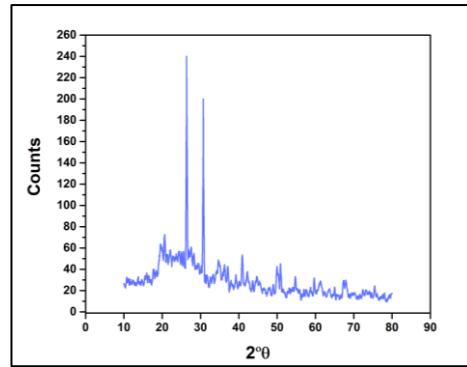


Figure 2. XRD patterns for prepared solid MgO nanoparticles.

The extremely heat-durable filler was constructed using such a design as its primary building block. SEM was used to examine the carbon black morphologies. It was evident that the surface was relatively smooth, and that the acid-treated activated carbon black surface had noticeable gaps. As seen in Figure 2, MgO nanoparticles were successfully deposited on the surface of the carbon black. A micrograph demonstrates the MgO nanoparticles' rough outer surface and shows how evenly distributed the particles are.

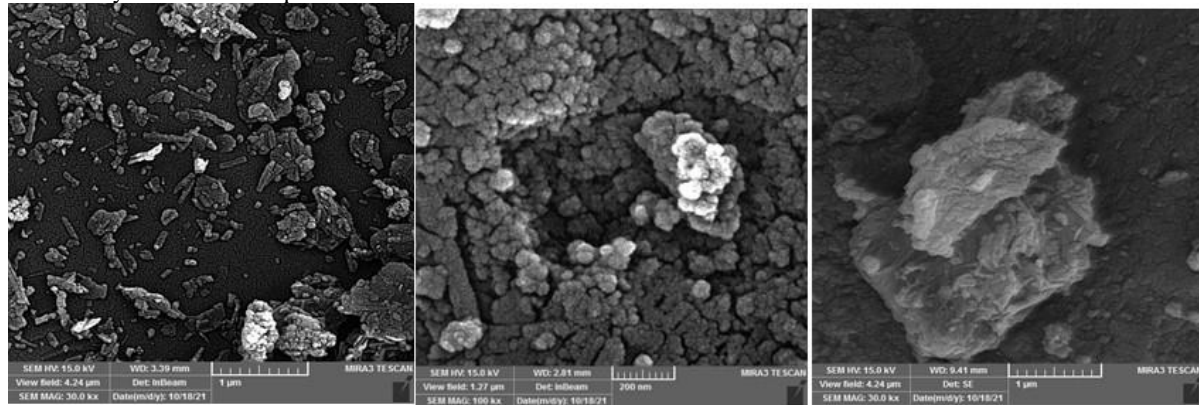


Figure 2. SEM micrograph of monodisperse MgO nanoparticle at 1 μm and 200 nm scale bar.

Table 2 displays how composite materials affect carbon capture and storage techniques' ability to reduce HC, CO, and CO₂ emissions. Adsorption is the method used to reduce carbon emissions from exhaust gases. It is a measure used by the automotive industry to regulate the amount of HC, CO, and CO₂ emissions from vehicle exhaust. To reduce motor emissions, carbon capture and storage are deployed in stages. Eventually, utilizing the manufactured composite reduced the emission of HC, CO, and CO₂ gases for four-stroke petrol engines.

Table 2. Emissions with and without using the Catalytic Converter.

Gases	Without Catalytic Converter	With Catalytic Converter (Carbon black)	With Catalytic Converter (Mgo NP-g-Carbon black)		
O ₂	13.98	14.64	16.41	17.23	16.26
CO ₁	1.11	0.95	0.75	0.78	0.75
CO ₂	3.7	3.7	4.1	4.2	4
HC	226	183	79	74	69

IV.CONCLUSION:

In this study, dynamic work has been done to lower HC, CO, and CO₂ emissions by carbon capture and storage technologies has been provided. Adsorption is the method used to reduce carbon emissions from exhaust gases. MgO nanoparticles grafted on activated carbon black, the solid adsorbent employed in this study, lock and retain the carbon molecules from the exhaust. For the purpose of reducing engine emissions, carbon capture and storage are deployed in stages. In comparison, the activated carbon contained very high micropores, contributing to higher gas adsorption. Combining highly porous supported materials and metal oxide can increase active sites and dispersion for better adsorption of weakly acidic gas, especially CO₂. The efficiency of the catalytic converter is expected to increase by using magnesium oxide with different grafted ratios on activated carbon by reducing the CO in and HC into lower ratio in the emission exhaust gases. Finally, this approach effectively decreased the emission of HC, CO, and CO₂ emissions from four-stroke petrol engines.

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