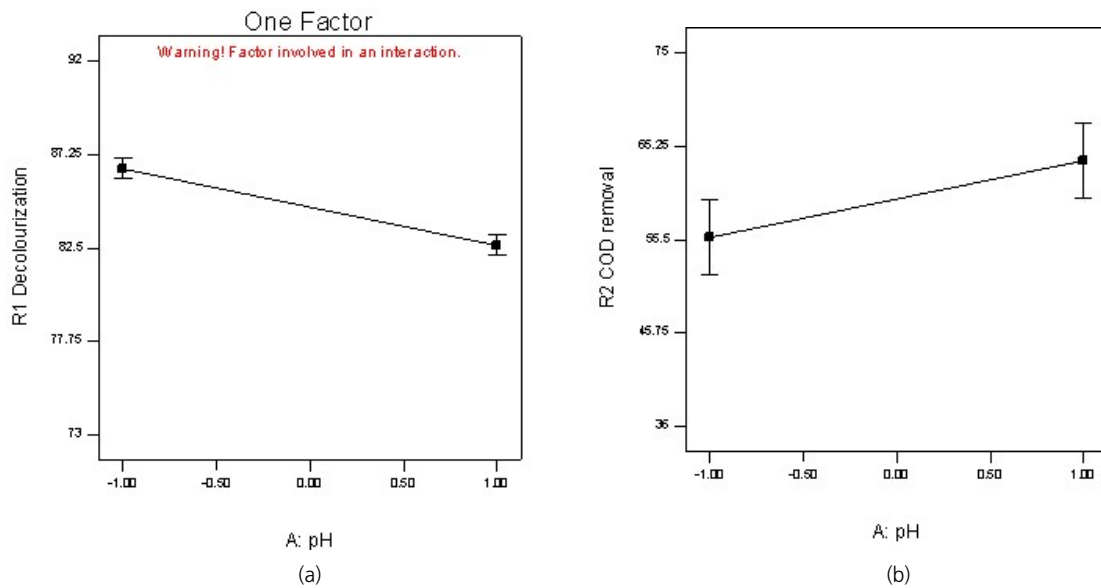


## Supplementary material

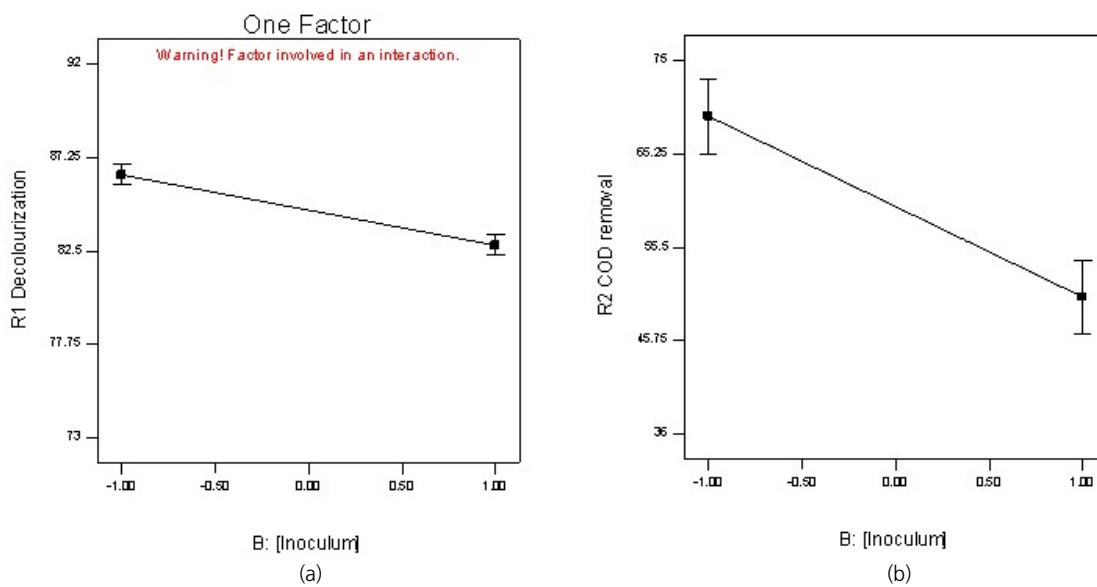
**Table S1.** Analysis of variance of chemical oxygen demand (COD) removal (%).

Source	Sum of squares	F-value	P-value Prob > F
Model	137.68	6.38	0.0048*
A	56.49	7.85	0.0128*
C	19.95	2.77	0.1152
C2	43.13	6.00	0.0262*

\*p-value indicates the models are significant.



**Fig. S1.** (a) pH and decolourization and (b) pH and COD removal.



**Fig. S2.** (a) Inoculum concentration and decolourization (b) inoculum concentration and COD removal.

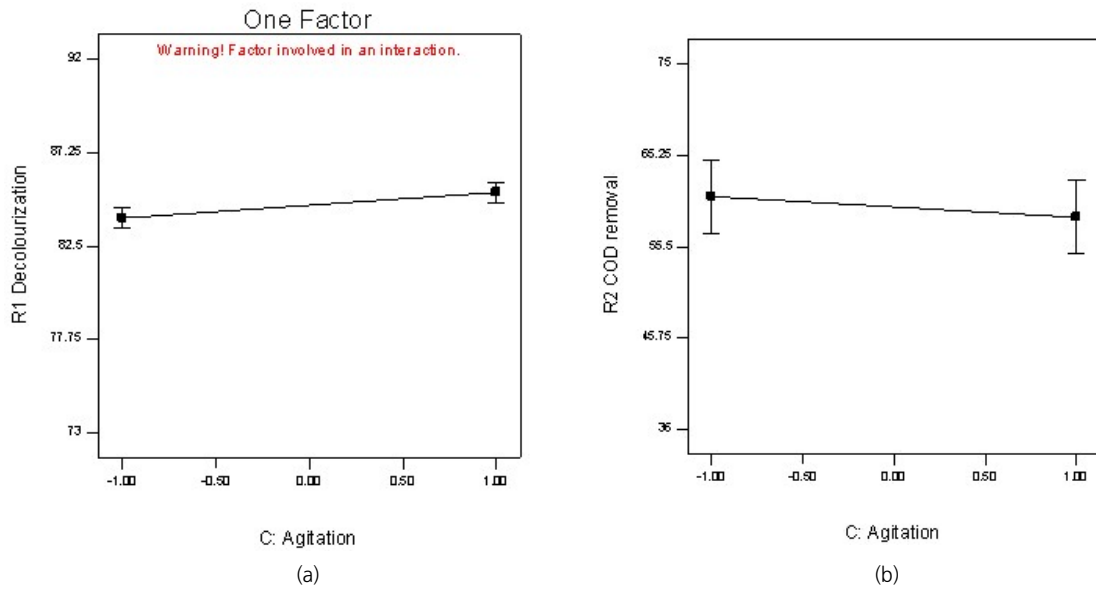


Fig. S3. (a) Agitation and decolourization (b) agitation and removal of COD.

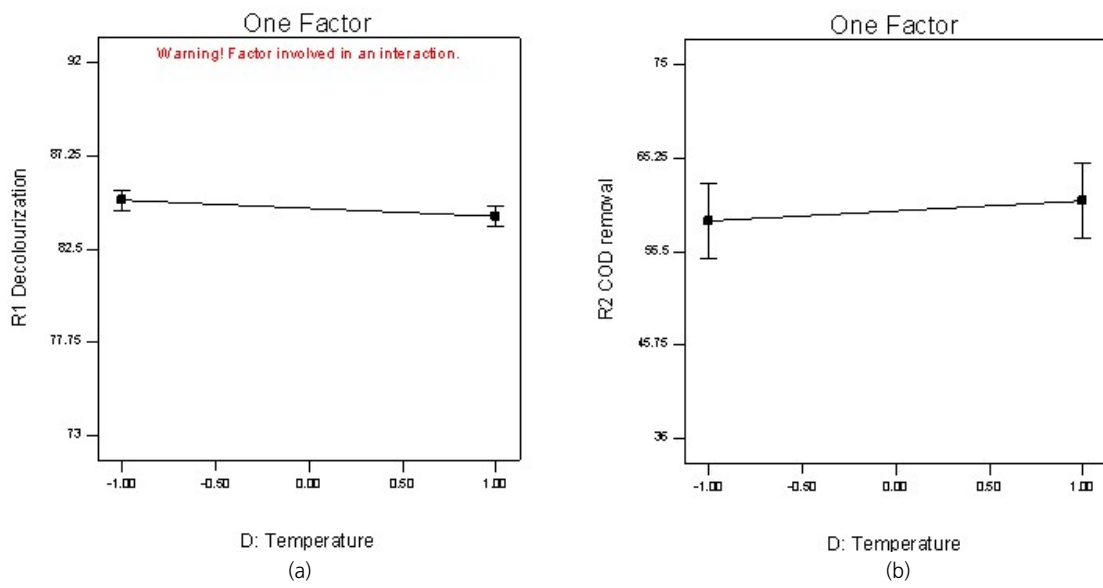


Fig. S4. (a) Temperature and colour removal (b) temperature and COD removal.