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Full Length Article

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Visible-Light Upconversion Carbon quantum dots decorated

TiO<sub>2</sub> for the Photodegradation of Flowing Gaseous Acetaldehyde

Yidan Hu<sup>12</sup>, Xiaofeng Xie<sup>\*1</sup>, Xiao Wang<sup>1</sup>, Yan Wang<sup>1</sup>, Yi Zeng<sup>1</sup>, David Y.H. Pui<sup>3</sup>, Jing Sun<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 1295 Dingxi Road,

Shanghai 200050, China.

<sup>2</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 19 (A) Yuquan Road, Beijing 100049, China.

<sup>3</sup> College of Science and Engineering, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455,

USA.

**Corresponding Author** 

\*E-mail address: xxfshcn@163.com

**KEYWORDS:** Carbon quantum dots, Titania; Upconversion; Photocatalysis, Acetaldehyde

removal

**ABSTRACT:** Carbon-modified photocatalyst has attracted extensive attentions in the field of

gaseous pollutant removal, mainly due to the improved adsorption properties and electronic

transport of carbon matrix, such as carbon nanotubes, graphene, and fullerene, etc. In this

work, carbon quantum dots (CQDs) were employed to enhance the photocatalytic

performance of TiO<sub>2</sub>-based composites for flowing gaseous acetaldehyde removal. Besides

aforementioned advantages of carbon materials, the unique up-converted

photoluminescence property of CQDs is capable of extending the optical absorption to

visible-light range. Moreover, the electron spin resonance (ESR) results firstly verified a

stable existence of Ti3+ in the CQDs/TiO2 composite, which is possibly induced by the

electron migration from CQDs to TiO<sub>2</sub>. And the formed Ti<sup>3+</sup> donor energy level in the band

gap could further help with the visible-light harvesting. During the photodegradation

experiments, with two-hour continuous flowing gaseous acetaldehyde injection (500 ppm, 20

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