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Synthesis and characterization of titania nanoparticles and enhancement of photochemical and/or electrochemical performance with zirconia nanoparticles

Mahmoud Elrouby, Mai M. Khalaf

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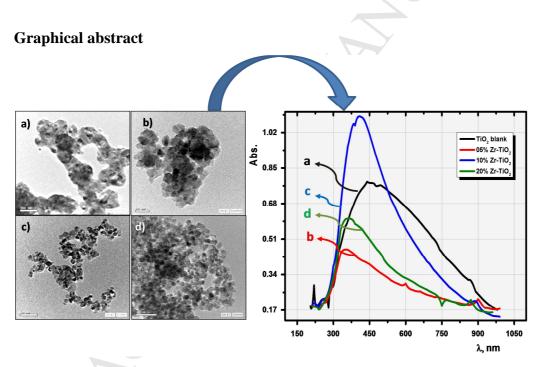
<u>Mahmoud Elrouby</u>^{a*}, Mai M. Khalaf^{a,b}

- a- Chemistry Department, Faculty of Science, Sohag University, 82524 Sohag, Egypt
- b- Department of Chemistry, College of Science, King Faisal University, Al Hufuf, 31982 Al Hassa, Saudi Arabia

* Corresponding author: Fax: (+2)-093 -4601159,

Tel: (+2)-011-43-909-358

E-mail address: dr_mahmoudelrouby@hotmail.com (<u>Mahmoud Elrouby</u>) <u>mmkali@kfu.edu.sa</u> (Mai M. Khalaf)



Abstract

Nanosized Zr-doped TiO₂ with improved structural stability and photocatalytic properties was synthesized by the sol-gel method. The physicochemical and morphological properties of the catalyst were investigated by transmission electron microscopy, thermogravimetric analysis, differential thermal analysis, X-ray diffraction, and Brunauer-Emmett-Teller analysis. Zr-doped TiO₂ possessed a mesoporous structure and a noticeably increased surface area (90 m² g⁻¹) as compared with pristine TiO₂ (28 m² g⁻¹). On doping with Zr,

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