# IMMOBILIZATION OF MESOPOROUS-ASSEMBLED TiO<sub>2</sub> NANOCRYSTAL PHOTOCATALYST FOR DEGRADATION OF AZO DYE CONTAMINANT IN WASTEWATER



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#### ABSTRACT

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Photocatalysis is an advanced oxidation process that efficiently degrades organic contaminants present in wastewater effluents. The suspension of TiO<sub>2</sub> powders in wastewater during the photocatalytic treatment shows great photoactivity, but it requires further troublesome filtering process to separate the photocatalyst from the treated wastewater. Therefore, utilization of  $TiO_2$  in an immobilized mode is more practical because it solves the problems of TiO<sub>2</sub> separation and reuse as compared to a suspension mode. This work focused on the photocatalytic degradation of Acid Black (AB) diazo dye by using nanocrystalline mesoporous-assembled TiO<sub>2</sub> photocatalyst immobilized on a glass plate, where the mesoporous-assembled TiO<sub>2</sub> nanocrystal was synthesized by a sol-gel process with the aid of a structure-directing surfactant. Various preparation parameters during the immobilization step were investigated on the photocatalytic AB dye degradation performance. The experimental results showed that the mesoporous-assembled TiO<sub>2</sub> film with 5 wt.% P-25 TiO<sub>2</sub> addition and calcined at 400 °C provided the highest AB dye degradation rate constant of 0.23 h<sup>-1</sup>. Moreover, an increase in the number of coated TiO<sub>2</sub> layers was found to enhance the photocatalytic activity until reaching the peel-off limitation at 4 layers.

# บทคัดย่อ

ภาวิตา กรรณวัลลี : การสลายตัวของสีข้อมประเภทเอโซที่ปนเปื้อนในน้ำเสียโดยใช้ ตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้แสงร่วมไททาเนียที่มีโครงสร้างในลักษณะนาโนและมีรูพรุนในระดับเมโซ พอร์ซึ่งถูกตรึงบนตัวรองรับ (Immobilization of Mesoporous-Assembled TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocrystal Photocatalyst for Degradation of Azo Dye Contaminant in Wastewater) อ. ที่ปรึกษา : ผศ.คร. ธรรมนูญ ศรีทะวงศ์ และ ศ.คร. สุเมธ ชวเคช 81 หน้า

ปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้แสงร่วมเป็นกระบวนการออกซิเคชันที่มีประสิทธิภาพ สำหรับการย่อย สลายสารอินทรีย์ที่ปนเปื้อนในน้ำเสีย การใช้ผงไททาเนียแบบแขวนลอยในน้ำเสียระหว่าง ปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้แสงร่วมนั้นสามารถตอบสนองต่อความไวแสงได้ดี แต่จะก่อให้เกิดปัญหาใน กระบวนการแยกตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้แสงร่วมจากน้ำเสียที่บำบัดแล้ว ดังนั้นการนำไททาเนียที่ ตรึงบนตัวรองรับแล้วมาใช้จะมีความเหมาะสมมากกว่า เนื่องจากสามารถแก้ไขปัญหาของ กระบวนการแขกไททาเนีย และสามารถนำกลับมาใช้ได้ใหม่ ในงานวิจัยนี้มุ่งเน้นศึกษา ความสามารถในการย่อยสลายสี่ย้อมประเภทไคเอโซชนิคแอซิคแบล็คของตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้ แสงร่วมไททาเนียที่มีโครงสร้างในลักษณะนาโนและมีรูพรุนในระดับเมโซพอร์ ซึ่งถูกตรึงบน แผ่นกระจกใส ในการทดลองนี้ตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาที่มีโครงสร้างในลักษณะนาโนและมีรูพรุนในระดับ เมโซพอร์สังเคราะห์ขึ้นโดยกระบวนการโซล-เจลร่วมกับการใช้สารลดแรงตึงผิวเป็นตัวกำหนด โกรงสร้าง โดยได้ทำการศึกษาตัวแปรต่างๆในขั้นตอนการตรึงตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยา เพื่อใช้ในปฏิกิริยา แบบใช้แสงร่วมในการสถายตัวของสีข้อมแอซิดแบล็ค จากผลการทคลองพบว่าเมื่อใส่ตัวเร่ง ปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้แสงร่วมไททาเนียเกรคทางการค้า พี-25 ปริมาณ 5 เปอร์เซ็นต์โคยน้ำหนัก ลงบน ฟิล์มตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาไททาเนียที่มีโครงสร้างในลักษณะนาโนและมีรูพรุนในระดับเมโซพอร์ ซึ่งเผา ที่อุณหภูมิ 400 องศาเซลเซียส ให้ผลในการย่อยสลายสี่ข้อมแอซิคแบล็คดีที่สุด โดยแสดงอัตราการ ฟอกสีที่ 0.23 ต่อชั่วโมง นอกจากนี้ยังพบว่า การเพิ่มจำนวนชั้นของฟิล์มตัวเร่งปฏิกิริยาไททาเนีย ช่วยทำให้เกิดปฏิกิริยาแบบใช้แสงร่วมได้ดีขึ้นจนกระทั่งเพิ่มจำนวนชั้นไปถึงจุดที่ฟิล์มไททาเนีย เกิดการหลุดลอกออกซึ่งจำกัดอยู่ที่ 4 ชั้น

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