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In situ FTIR reactor for monitoring gas phase products during a (photo)catalytic reaction in the liquid phase

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ABSTRACT: Various catalytic and photocatalytic reactions in the liquid phase give rise to gas products. Therefore, the identification and quantification of these products are of high importance and even essential for some reactions. In this communication, a new *in situ* FTIR reactor is designed and used for analyzing the gas headspace of a (photo)catalytic reaction in solution. It allows the identification and quantification of the gas products of a liquid reaction under operating conditions and in real time. The new reactor has been tested in three representative photocatalytic reactions widely studied as model reactions in the liquid phase, i.e., i) decomposition of formic acid, ii) oxidation of Methylene Blue and iii) reduction of CO₂. The validity of the results has been confirmed by analyzing the headspace at the end of the reaction using GC. The new reactor opens the possibility to follow on-line the (photo)catalyst activity. This is useful for ensuring the stability of the catalyst and studying the evolution of the selectivity during the reaction. The non-destructive behavior of the FTIR technique allows its coupling with other techniques for obtaining complementary results. The new reactor setup is easy to handle, to ship, and is very efficient which make it very suitable for performing fast and/or preliminary studies.

INTRODUCTION

An increasing attention has been recently given to the liquid phase photocatalytic and catalytic reactions. Many of these systems include a solid-liquid interface or solid-liquid-gas interfaces that give rise to gas products. These heterogeneous catalyzed multi-phase systems are commonly found in CO₂ photo-reduction,^{1,2} water splitting,³⁻⁷ and other processes for total oxidation and/or transformation of hazardous chemical wastes for water purification.⁸⁻¹⁰ In addition, the conversion of biomass, aerobic fermentation and selective aerobic oxidation become of high importance in solid-liquid-gas reactions.^{11,12} Therefore, the development of techniques able to monitor the gas phase products of heterogeneous liquid reactions under working conditions is highly desirable.¹³⁻¹⁵

Off-line analytical techniques, such as gas chromatography (GC) and mass spectrometry (MS) are conventionally, used for analyzing and quantifying the effluent gas products. In such a procedure, the analyzed samples have to be taken from the reaction medium and studied separately or with an on-line analyzer. Nevertheless, GC-MS analysis is rather expensive and a time-consuming process.

In situ FTIR spectroscopy found to be very attractive for analyzing gas phase products of solid-gas catalytic reactions.¹⁶⁻¹⁸ In the transmission mode, it gives a quantitative information on the evolution of the gas phase products in real time. The non-destructive behavior of the FTIR technique allows its coupling with other analytic techniques.¹⁹⁻²¹

However, up to date, the use of the *in situ* mode FTIR technique is mainly limited to the solid/gas phase reactions and/or for monitoring the adsorbed species on the photocatalytic surface.²²⁻²⁴ Herein, we report a new *in situ* FTIR reactor for a real-time analysis of the gas products during a liquid photocatalytic reaction, under operating conditions. It is mainly dedicated for

the studies of homogeneous and heterogeneous catalytic and photocatalytic reactions of gas and liquid dissolved reactants. The new reactor (Scheme 1) is compact and easily detachable (easy to be cleaned and installed). It is sealed and offers the possibility to work under control atmosphere and at a relatively high pressure (from atmospheric pressure up to 5 bars). The new *in situ* reactor can be used in batch with the possibility to be used as a flow reactor. Its configuration fits well for studying photocatalytic and thermal catalytic reaction under soft conditions (298 to 353 K; depending of the reaction medium). The universal connectors (inlet and outlet) used in the fabrication of the reactor offers the possibility to add different accessories (e.g., gas trap at controlled temperature; vacuum connector; inlet and outlet gas connectors, etc.).

In this work, three well-known photocatalytic reactions have been performed to highlight the performance and the main advantages of the new setup: i) photocatalytic decomposition of formic acid on TiO₂; ii) photodegradation of Methylene Blue on TiO₂; iii) and CO₂ photoreduction on Re(bpy)(CO)₃Cl. After the calibration of the reactor with the possible gas products, the concentration profiles obtained by FTIR spectroscopy were compared and confirmed by single point off-line GC analysis at the end of the reaction. The error has been calculated by performing each reaction at least twice.

2. EXPERIMENTAL

2.1 *In situ* FTIR reactor

The new reactor is presented in Scheme 1 and Scheme S1 in the real dimensions. The reactor is made from glass and equipped with two gas inlet and outlet, perpendicular to the tubes ensuring the FTIR beam pathway through CaF₂ windows.

The FTIR tubes are slightly tilted to prevent the solvent condensation and accumulation. The UV-visible irradiation is ensured from the top through a removable quartz window. The quartz and CaF_2 windows are attached to the reactor with screw fittings and the tightness is obtained by adapted Teflon O-rings. The total internal volume of the reactor is 160 ± 5 mL and can be filled with 10 to 50 mL of the solution. The design allowed an easy opening and closing of the reactor, therefore, an easy clean after each experiment. The purge of the reactor is ensured by the mass flow controller system. The system allows operating as a batch or a continuous flow reactor due to its different possible accessories that can be connected to the reactor (Scheme S1). It should be noted that many optimization and reactors have been made before obtaining the final design presented here. This design solves the problem previously encountered and related with the sealing, condensation of the solvent, deformation of the O-ring (when organic solvents, e.g. acetonitrile, are used), irradiation reproducibility, etc.

In this study, the UV-visible irradiation was carried out using a UV-light guide (A10014-50-0110) mounted at the top of the IR cell and connected to a polychromatic light of Xe-Hg lamp (for UV irradiation) or Xe lamp (for visible irradiation) (LC8 spot light Hamamatsu, L10852, 200 W). Monochromatic irradiation was performed by using a band pass filter at 365 nm (irradiance around 15 mW/cm^2) or pass high filter for $\lambda > 390$ nm (irradiance around 20 mW/cm^2).

All IR spectrum measurements with the *in situ* FTIR reactor were monitored in real time with 2 to 5 min/spectrum of time resolution. IR spectra of the reactor headspace were recorded using Nicolet 6700 IR spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) equipped with an MCT detector.

In the batch configuration, the cell can be heated at the desired temperature (298 to 353 K) with a removable resistance and the temperature is controlled by a thermocouple (inserted via a septum). All photocatalytic tests presented in this work were performed at room temperature (298-303 K).

Scheme 1. (A) The new *in situ* FTIR reactor used in this work for monitoring the gas headspace of a photocatalytic reaction in the liquid phase. (B) Industrial scheme of the reactor from the side view: (1) quartz window; (2) quartz window screw; (3) plastic-ring fitting of the quartz window; (4) Inox O-ring holder; (5) O-ring; (6) Screws of the CaF_2 IR windows; (7) CaF_2 IR windows; (8) Teflon O-ring; (9) IR beam pathway; (10) Gas inlet/outlet of the reactor. More details on the reactor and the reactor's accessories are reported in Scheme S1 in the supporting information.

2.2 Gas chromatographic analysis GC

Off-line GC analysis of H_2 , CO_2 and CO were conducted using Thermo Scientific Trace 1310 with a Thermal conductivity detector (GC-TCD for TRACE 1300 GC Series, Thermo Scientific), and equipped with a MolSive5 A column ($30 \text{ m} \times 0.53 \text{ mm}$, $50 \mu\text{m}$). For this purpose, injections (1 mL) of gas headspace were made in the GC and the resulting peak areas were converted into concentrations by using a calibration with the corresponding standard gases (operating conditions: carrier gas, He (for H_2 and CO) and N_2 for CO_2 ; split flow rate = 60 mL/min ; split ratio = 1/12; inlet temperature = 423 K ; column temperature 393 K (for H_2 and CO) and 523 K (for CO_2)).

2.3 Materials

The following chemicals were obtained from commercial sources (Sigma Aldrich) and used without further purification: 2,2'-Bipyridine(bpy), pentacarbonyl-chlororhenium(I), Formic acid (HCOOH , $\leq 98\%$ purity), Acetonitrile (ACN, 99.8% purity), Triethanolamine (TEOA, $\geq 99.0\%$ purity), and Methylene Blue (MB, $\geq 95\%$ purity).

The photocatalytic decomposition of formic acid (FAc) and the photodegradation of MB were performed by using the commercially available TiO_2 P25 as photocatalyst (Evonik P25, $51 \text{ m}^2/\text{g}$).

The CO_2 photoreduction was performed on a well-known $\text{Re}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_3\text{Cl}$ (bpy = 2,2'-bipyridine) photocatalyst. It was synthesized according to the literature.^{24,25} Three different batches were prepared for the current experiments. Briefly, in a 100 mL round-bottom flask, $\text{Re}(\text{CO})_5\text{Cl}$ (0.50 g, 1.35 mmol), 2,2'-bipyridine (0.21 g, 1.35 mmol), and toluene (50 mL) were added together, and the resultant reaction mixture was heated under refluxing conditions for 5 h. Upon cooling, the product was filtered under vacuum, and rinsed with cold toluene. ^1H NMR (δ , 400 MHz, DMSO-d_6): 9.01 (d, ^1H), 8.75 (d, ^1H), 8.35(t, ^1H), 7.77(t, ^1H).

2.4. Conditions of the photocatalytic tests using the new FTIR *in situ* reactor

In this work, the reactor was used in agitated slurry mode where the catalyst was already dispersed as detailed below for the different photocatalytic tests performed in this study.

Anaerobic photocatalytic decomposition of Formic acid

A typical experiment for the batch operation mode of *in situ* reactor was performed as follows: 20 mg of TiO_2 P25 were dispersed in 10 mL of acetonitrile (AcN) or water with 1 mM of formic acid. The reaction mixture was sonicated for 30 minutes. Afterward, the mixture was bubbled with argon for 30 min to ensure an inert atmosphere. The monochromatic irradiation (at 365 nm) of the samples were performed. IR spectra of the reactor headspace were recorded using Nicolet 6700 IR spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) equipped with an MCT detector. The spectra were recorded at 128 scans with a spectral resolution of 4 cm^{-1} and a time resolution of 2 min/spectrum. After 15 h of irradiation, the reaction is stopped, and an injection of the gases produced in the reactor is taken and injected in the GC to determine the concentrations of hydrogen and for a double check of the CO_2 and CO produced during the reaction. The experiments were repeated three times and the error was estimated to 10%.

Photodegradation of Methylene Blue (MB)

50 mg of TiO₂ (P25) was dispersed in 50 mL of distilled water (pH≈6) containing 0.2 mM of MB. The reaction mixture was kept in dark for a given time (15–30 min) and sonicated for 30 minutes to obtain a homogeneous suspension of TiO₂. Then, the mixture was agitated during 1 h by a magnetic stirrer before irradiation in order to ensure the adsorption–desorption equilibrium. The samples were then irradiated with a Xe-Hg lamp (with a 365 nm pass filter; 15 mW/cm²). 2 mL aliquots were taken and filtered, to remove the solid particles, at different reaction time and analyzed by transmission UV–vis spectroscopy (Cray 4000 UV–vis spectrophotometer) using a quartz cuvette of 1 cm of path length. The concentration of MB was measured by using the absorbance of the characteristic bands at 661 nm and at 293 nm. The gas headspace of the reaction was analyzed using FTIR with the same condition and parameter mentioned above.

Photocatalytic reduction of CO₂

The photocatalytic CO₂ reduction was tested in the new *in situ* reactor using Re(bpy)(CO)₃Cl (1 mM) as a photocatalyst, in presence of TEOA (0.1 M) as electron donor dissolved in AcN/H₂O mixture (10/1.8 mL). The solution was sonicated for 30 min at room temperature and bubbled with argon and then with CO₂ for 30 min with a flow rate of 20 mL/min. As a light source, Xe-lamp (LC8 Hamamatsu, 200 W) with pass-high filter at 390 nm was used. The headspace of the reaction was analyzed using FTIR with the same condition and parameter mentioned above. At the end of the reaction, the headspace products were analyzed and measured by gas chromatography as detailed previously.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Calibration of the reactor with CO₂, CO and H₂. CO, CO₂, and H₂ are the main products investigated from the photocatalytic tests performed in this work. In general, CO and CO₂ are very often the final products of the CO₂ photoreduction (in the liquid phase) and photocatalytic purification of water. Therefore, the quantitative analysis of these gases in real time is of a high importance. In some reactions, H₂ is also present as a co-product (with others such as CO₂ and CO) especially for CO₂ photoreduction and photocatalytic decomposition of some products as formic acid. Since H₂ is not detectable by IR, its calibration was only performed by the GC. Consequently, for some experiments realized in this work, the FTIR and GC techniques are complementary, and allowed confirming the results obtained by IR.

The gas calibrations were performed in flow mode and the IR reactor was connected to gas lines with gas mixing devices and mass flow controllers. The evolution of the GC bands and IR bands intensity of CO and CO₂ versus their concentrations in the gas phase are presented in Figure 1 (Ar was used as a carrier gas). For H₂ the results are reported in the supplementary information (Figure S1). More details on the IR spectra resolution and on the GC analysis are detailed in the experimental section. Linear evolution of the IR and GC signal can be observed for different products, with an error lower than 10% and “R” values higher than 0.98. This is comparable with the error obtained by the GC technique with an error value around 15%. It also confirms the reactor sealing which is also proved by the stability of the intensity of the corresponding IR bands during more than two hours at a given concentration in a batch mode. The determined equation between the concentration, the IR band area and

GC peak intensity is then used for calculating the amount of the detectable gas products of our photocatalytic tests performed with this reactor under similar conditions.

Figure 1. CO (I-a) and CO₂ (II-a) calibration curves as determined by GC (circle; left scale) and FTIR (square; right scale) for the new *in situ* reactor. (b) and (c) are the corresponding GC peaks and characteristic IR bands of the CO (I) and CO₂ (II) in Ar vs. concentration, respectively. GC parameters: (I) column: MolSieve5 A; inlet temperature = 423 K; column temperature: 393 K (for H₂ and CO) and 523 K (for CO₂); carrier gas: He (for CO) and N₂ (for CO₂); split flow rate = 60 mL/min; split ratio = 1/12; injected volume: 1 mL.

Photocatalytic tests

Photocatalytic decomposition of Formic acid (FAc) on TiO₂. The dehydrogenation of FAc (Scheme 2-1) offers an efficient route for hydrogen generation and storage (in a chemical form) and thus attracts tremendous interest lately.²⁶⁻³⁴ Nevertheless, the dehydration of the FAc during its catalytic decomposition must be avoided to prevent the catalyst poisoning by CO in the fuel cells (Scheme 2-2). Civis et al. already studied this reaction using ex-situ FTIR spectroscopy. CO₂ and CO were detected as final products.³⁵ In this work, *in situ* FTIR reactor was used to monitor the CO₂ and CO production during the photocatalytic decomposition of formic acid on TiO₂-P25. Figure 2 demonstrates the evolution of the CO₂ and CO versus the irradiation time. The formation of the CO₂ is mainly related to the production of hydrogen while the CO is the product of the dehydration of formic acid.

Scheme 2. The two possible pathways of the photocatalytic decomposition of formic acid under anaerobic condition: (1) dehydrogenation and (2) dehydration.

Figure 2. (A) Evolution of the CO₂ (a) and CO (b) versus the time (in mmol per gram of photocatalyst) during the photocatalytic decomposition of HCOOH in water over TiO₂-P25 under monochromatic UV irradiation (at 365 nm; 15 mW/cm²). The amount was calculated by the integration of (B) the characteristic CO₂ and (C) CO IR bands area basing on the calibration curves (error $\approx$ 10%). Time resolution= 2 min/spectrum; Reaction condition: [HCOOH]= 1 mM; Total volume = 10 mL; m_{TiO₂}= 20 mg; Irradiance=15 mW/cm²; Temperature=298-303 K; Ar atmosphere.

The quantity of headspace gas products obtained by *in situ* FTIR is confirmed by the GC analysis performed at the end of the reaction. The similar amount of CO₂ and CO detected by FTIR and GC analyses (Figure 3 (A)), demonstrate the credibility of the *in situ* FTIR technique used in this work. In addition, the amount of H₂ is very close to that of produced CO₂ which is in agreement with the decomposition reaction. The selectivity of the dehydrogenation process (based on CO₂ vs CO selectivity) was found to be equal to 81 $\pm$ 15% (after 15h of the reaction). Following the evolution of CO₂ and CO in real time during the reaction allows determining instantly the selectivity of the reaction as presented in Figure 3(B). A decrease of the selectivity for the photocatalytic dehydrogenation process with the time can be clearly observed. The selectivity is of 78% after 15 h of reaction in agreement with the value found by GC. The decrease of the CO₂ selectivity can probably be assigned to the increase of the reaction pH due to formic acid conversion. This change in the selectivity is not important (only 5 %) to be detected by the off-line analytic techniques. In order to exclude the presence of the CO₂ of the atmosphere, the experiment was reproduced under the same conditions using H¹³COOH isotope. The results demonstrate the selective formation of ¹³CO₂ (Figure S2).

Figure 3. (A) CO₂, H₂ and CO amount determined by GC after 15 h of irradiation. (B) evolution of the dehydrogenation selectivity versus the irradiation time.

The same reaction has been performed under polychromatic UV-irradiation (irradiance $\approx 205 \text{ mW/cm}^2$) for 2 hours and then the irradiation was stopped suddenly for more than 16 h. The *in situ* FTIR analysis demonstrates an important and linear increase of the CO_2 under irradiation (Figure S3). However, no evolution of the CO_2 was observed in dark demonstrating the photocatalytic behavior of the reaction. The high stability of the IR band intensity of CO_2 (for more than 16 hours) demonstrates the good sealing of the reactor for a relatively long-time reaction (more than 24 hours for the reaction in aqueous solutions). This sealing is important for a rigorous quantification of the products, and, furthermore, for the stability of the catalyst in case of sensitivity toward O_2 or other atmospheric gases.

Photodegradation of Methylene Blue on TiO_2 . Dyes and other organic compounds are the major pollutants of water and coming mainly from industries. These water pollutants pose environmental hazards to human, aquatic animals and microorganisms. Advanced oxidation processes (AOP) are usually used for waste water purification. Among the AOP methods, heterogeneous photocatalysis appears as an emerging destructive technology leading to the total mineralization of most of the organic pollutants in wastewater.³⁶⁻³⁸ Methylene Blue is one of the mostly used as a dye model for studying the photocatalytic activity of dyes photodegradation.³⁹⁻⁴⁰ This is revealed by more than hundreds of papers published each year on the photocatalytic degradation of Methylene Blue (Figure S4). In general, different experimental techniques are used for both qualitative and quantitative analyses of dyes. Among these techniques, the UV-visible spectroscopy is the mostly used due to the high absorbance of dyes in the visible range. Therefore, the degradation of these hazardous compounds is studied by following their absorbance bands. However, the decrease of the characteristic absorbance bands cannot be used as a prove for a total degradation and/or oxidation (conversion to CO_2). Consequently, the new *in situ* FTIR reactor is very appropriate and convenient for ensuring the total photooxidation of the hazardous compounds or not.

The photodegradation of MB on TiO_2 -P25 has been studied as detailed in the experimental section. The evolution of the MB photodegradation was investigated by UV-visible spectroscopy and the results are reported in Figure 4A. The degradation of the MB was calculated using the intensities of its characteristic absorbance bands at 661 nm and 293 nm (inset Figure 4A).⁴¹ A total discoloration of the solution can be observed after only 40 min of monochromatic irradiation at 365 nm of TiO_2 -P25 suspension. However, the FTIR results (Figure 4B) shows a linear increase of the CO_2 until 125 min. This mean after 85 min of the total discoloration of MB. After that a plateau is observed and a total oxidation of MB can be expected. N.B. for confirming this hypothesis, a determination of total organic carbon content (TOC) in the MB solution is required. Furthermore, the rate of the CO_2 production is slower than that of the MB degradation. This is probably assigned to the formation of sub-products undetectable by UV where their oxidation is relatively slow. In conclusion, the *in situ* FTIR was crucial to investigate the possible complete photooxidation. Following the photodegradation based only on the UV-visible spectra is unfortunately not enough for proving the total depollution of water.

Figure 4. (A) The evolution of the photocatalytic degradation of MB on TiO_2 -P25 versus the irradiation time. Inset: the corresponding samples and their UV-visible spectra. (B) The evolution of the CO_2 in the gas headspace. Inset: the FTIR spectra of the headspace in the vibration region of CO_2 at different irradiation time. Reaction conditions: $m_{\text{TiO}_2} = 50 \text{ mg}$; $V_{\text{water}} = 50 \text{ mL}$; $[\text{MB}] = 0.2 \text{ mM}$; Lamp Xg-Xe; $\lambda = 365 \text{ nm}$; irradiance = 15 mW/cm^2 .

CO_2 photoreduction on $\text{Re}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_3\text{Cl}$. The photocatalytic reduction of carbon dioxide has attracted great attention during the last years. It is an important component of artificial photosynthesis, prompted by the concerns of increasing concentrations of this greenhouse gas in the atmosphere.⁴² Valuable gas and volatile organic compounds such as CO , CH_3OH , CH_4 , C_2H_4 , etc., are detected as main products of the (photo/electro) catalytic reduction of CO_2 .⁴³ Among the catalysts for CO_2 reduction, $\text{Re}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_3\text{Cl}$ (1, bpy = 2,2'-bipyridine) and its derivatives have been recognized as being very active and selective for the reduction of CO_2 to CO .⁴⁴⁻⁵² In our study, $\text{Re}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_3\text{Cl}$ is selected as photocatalyst to monitor the production of CO by *in situ* FTIR during the CO_2 photoreduction under similar conditions reported above in the literature (see the experimental section).

The results are presented in Figure 5. A linear increase of the CO amount versus the visible irradiation time can be observed (Figure 5A-B). The GC analysis of the headspace gas products after 12h of irradiation agrees with the quantity detected by the *in situ* FTIR for the same time of irradiation (Figure 5C). The increase of the CO production demonstrates that there is no deactivation of the photocatalyst even after 12h of reaction. Therefore, once again the new *in situ* FTIR can clearly serve to such kind of reaction. It allows not only following the kinetic of the CO production (and other gas or VOC) with high precision and simplicity, but also monitoring the stability of the photocatalyst along the reaction.

Figure 5. (A) Evolution of the CO gas production versus the visible irradiation time using $\text{Re}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_3\text{Cl}$ as photocatalyst. (B) Evolution of the CO IR bands during the reaction (time resolution = 5 min/spectrum). (C) Amount of the CO produced after 12 h of the photocatalytic reaction as determined by *in situ* FTIR and by GC analysis of the gas headspace. Reaction conditions: 10 mL of ACN; 1.8 mL of H_2O ; $[\text{Re}(\text{bpy})(\text{CO})_3\text{Cl}] = 1 \text{ mM}$; $[\text{TEOA}] = 0.1 \text{ M}$; bubbled with CO_2 for 30 min with a flow rate of 20 mL/min. Irradiance = UV-Vis irradiation (at 390 nm); room temperature; under Ar atmosphere.

CONCLUSION

In this work, we have developed and tested a new *in situ* FTIR reactor for monitoring the gas headspace of a liquid reaction. This reactor can be very useful for studying homogeneous and heterogeneous catalytic and photocatalytic reactions, performed at relatively low temperatures and giving rise to gaseous products detectable by FTIR. The new reactor has been tested in three different model reactions widely studied in photocatalysis: photocatalytic decomposition of Formic acid, photodegradation of Methylene Blue and CO_2 photoreduction. It allowed a real time monitoring of the CO_2 and CO produced from these reactions and gave rise to quantitative results with high precision. The reproducibility of the experiments was tested and errors were estimated to be lower than 10%. The results were confirmed by gas chromatography. For the formic acid, a low decrease of the selectivity (of about 5%) with time was observed and assigned to pH modification due to FAc decomposition. The non-significant modification of the selectivity makes challenging its observation by ex-situ analysis. For Methylene Blue, the *in situ* FTIR shows that the total oxidation is 3 times slower than MB degradation. Moreover, the photocatalyst is not deactivated during CO_2 photoreduction as a linear increase is observed during the reaction (12h). The new setup is easy to handle, to ship, and is very efficient which makes it very suitable for performing fast and/or preliminary studies.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The following data are available free of charge on the ACS Publications website as Supporting Information: The FTIR setup used

for monitoring the gas headspace of a photocatalytic reaction in liquid phase. The picture of the reactor and its available and removable accessories. The calibration curves of H_2 as determined by GC using the new *in situ* reactor. The IR spectra in the region of the CO_2 vibration of gas headspace of the H^{12}COOH and H^{13}COOH after UV-irradiation in presence of TiO_2 P25. The evolution of the amount of the CO_2 produced during the photocatalytic dehydrogenation of formic acid on TiO_2 under polychromatic UV irradiation and in dark. Number of papers appeared per year concerning the photocatalytic degradation of Methylene Blue. Source: web of knowledge.

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Author Contributions

The manuscript was written through contributions of all authors. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

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