

The 7th Annual Conference on the Physics, Chemistry and Biology of Water

What an electron-hole pair upon UV irradiation of TiO_2 can do besides the red-ox reactions

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In Germany



Leibniz Universitaet Hannover

Nanotechnology and
Photocatalysis

Group of Prof. Detlef Bahnemann



Back to Argentina !



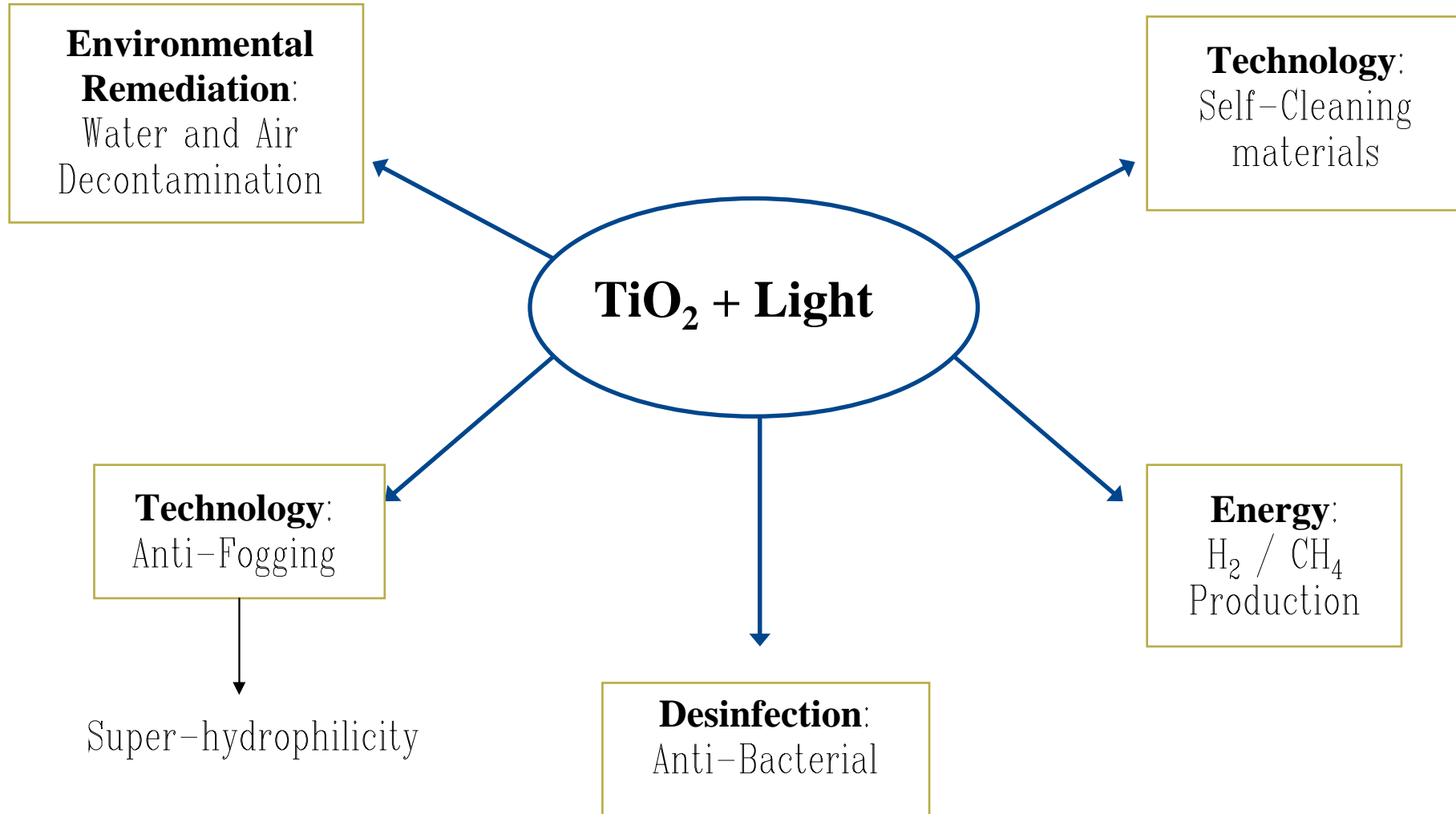
Mar del Plata



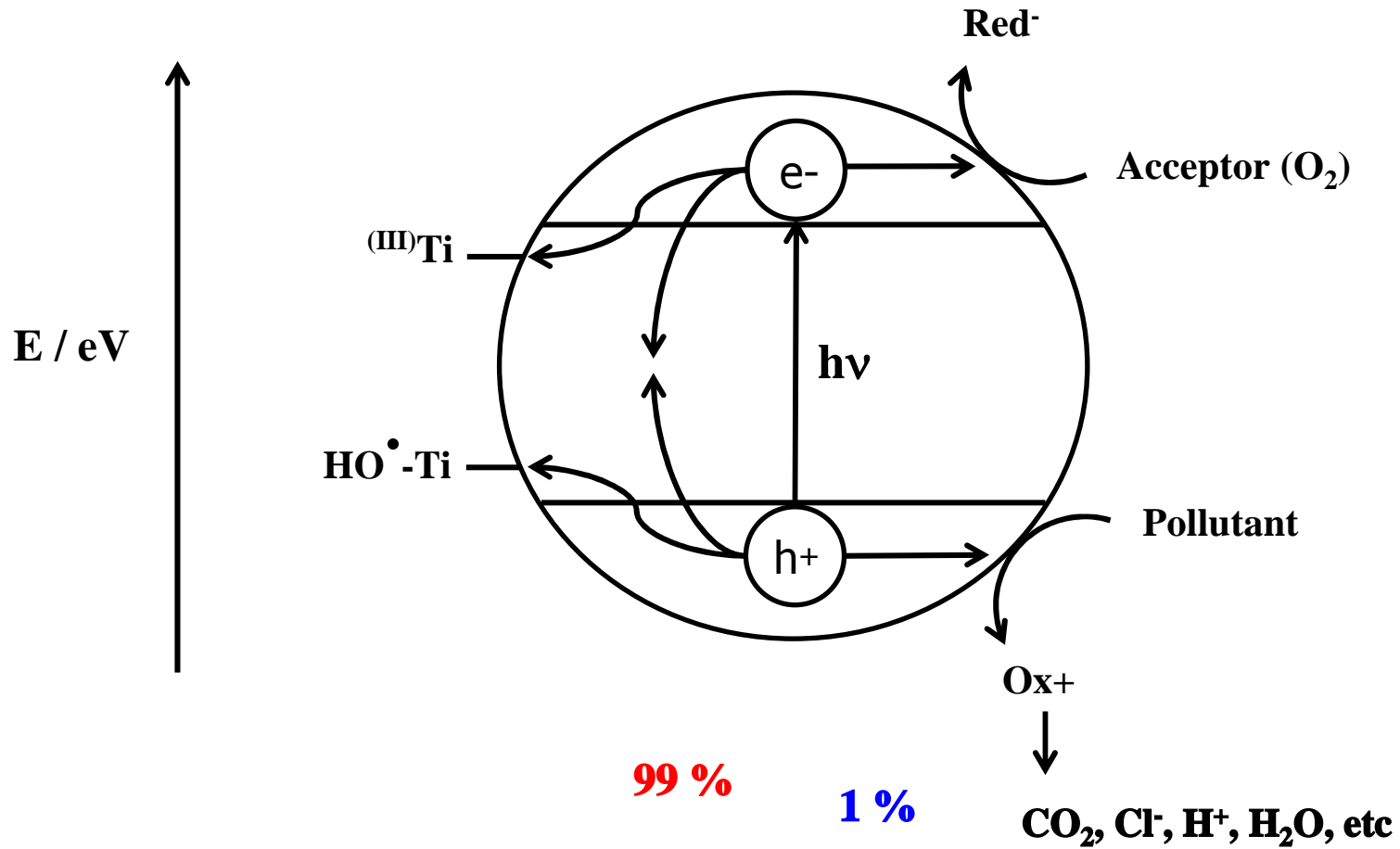
Our research group at the National University of Mar del Plata



Fields of Applications

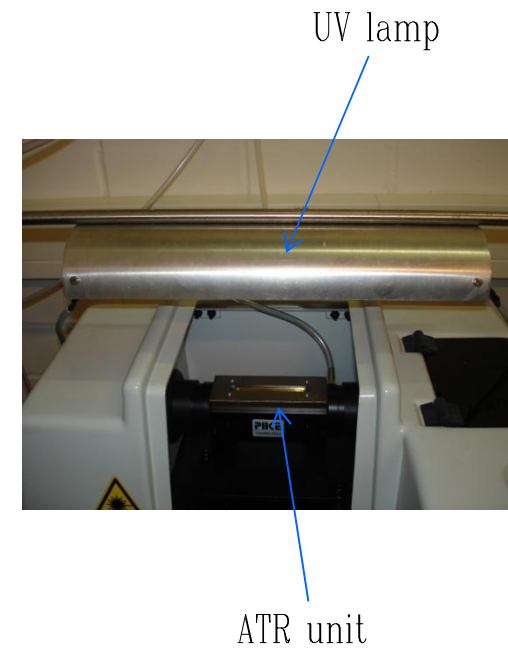
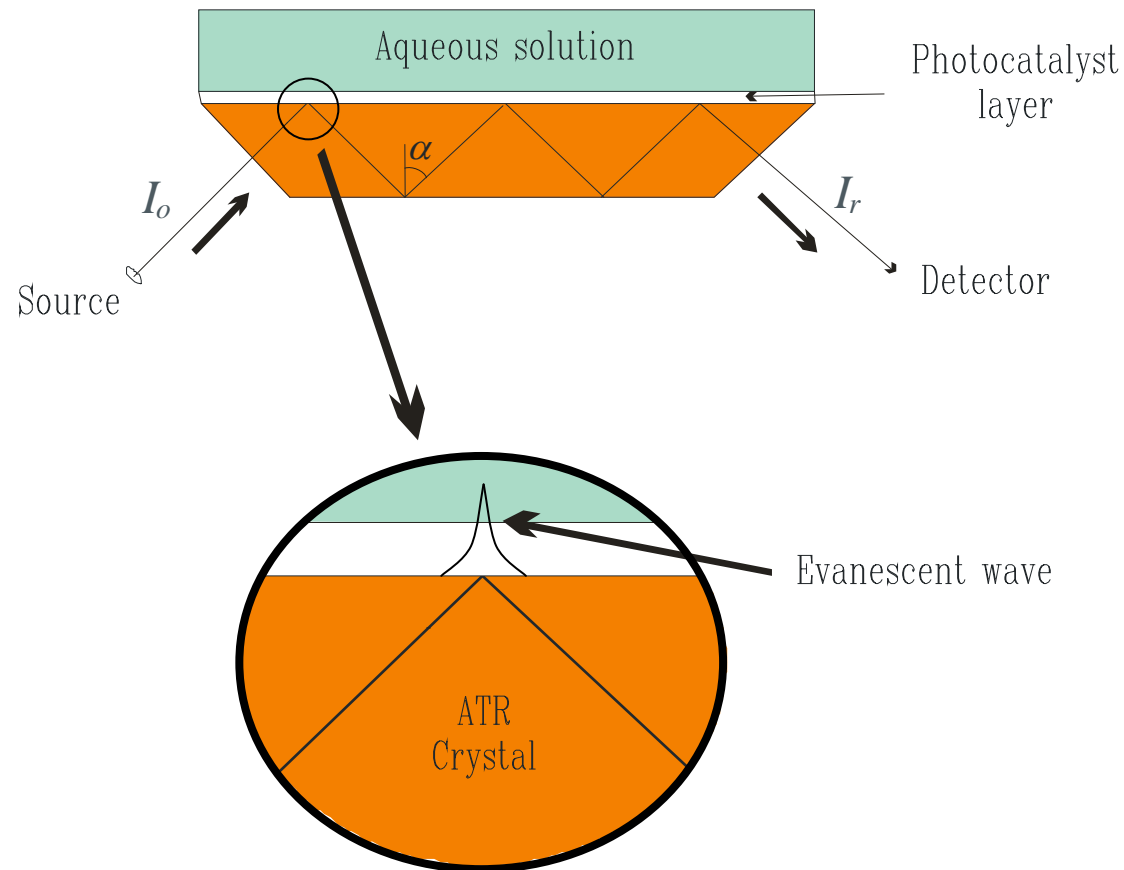


Principle of (heterogeneous) photocatalysis

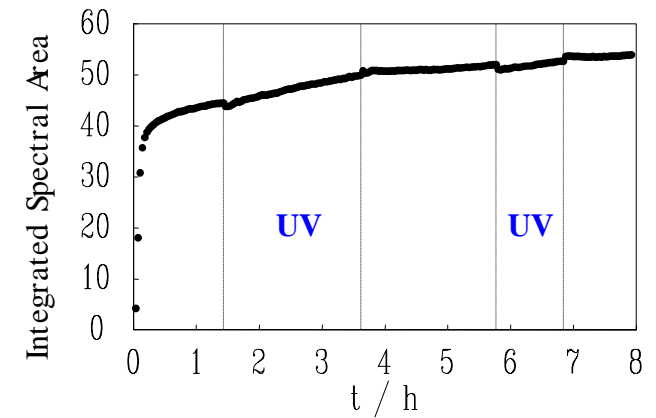
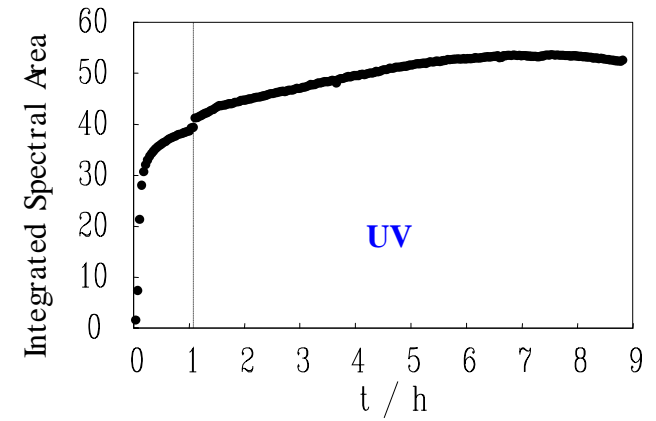
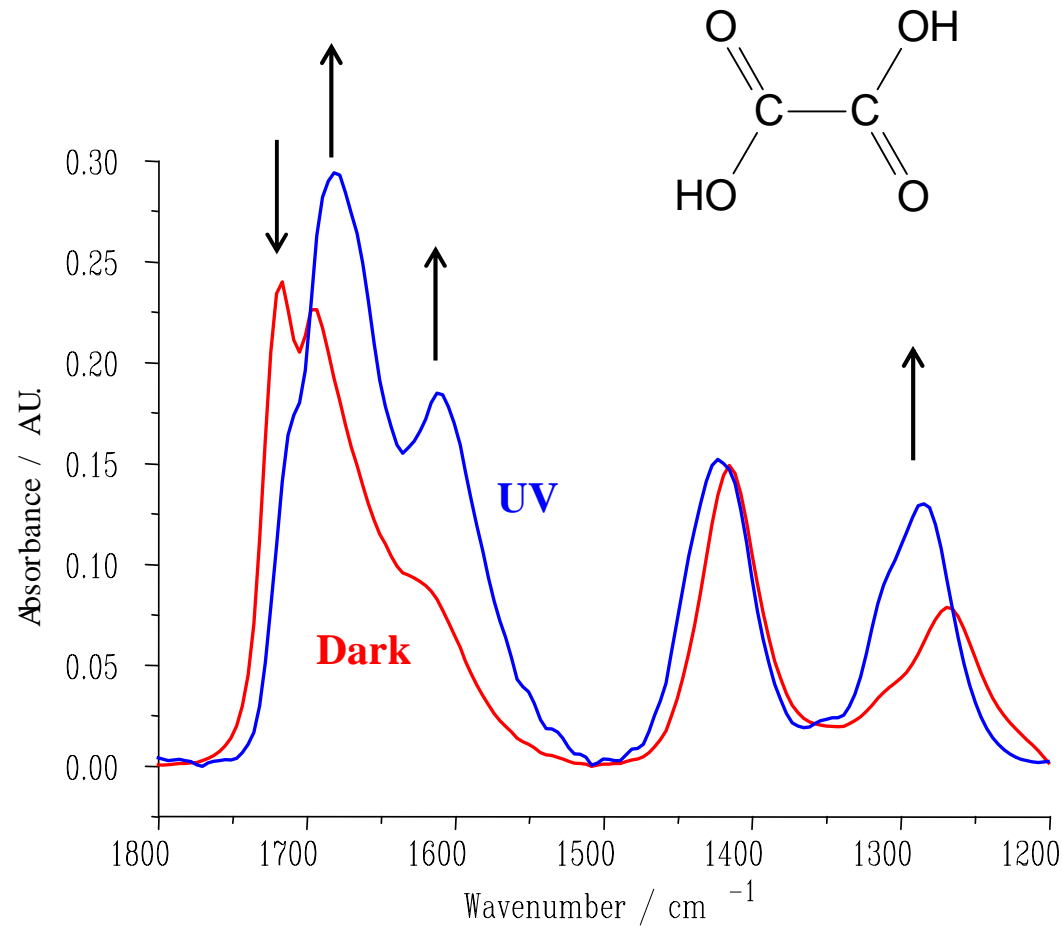


How to assess the photocatalyst surface

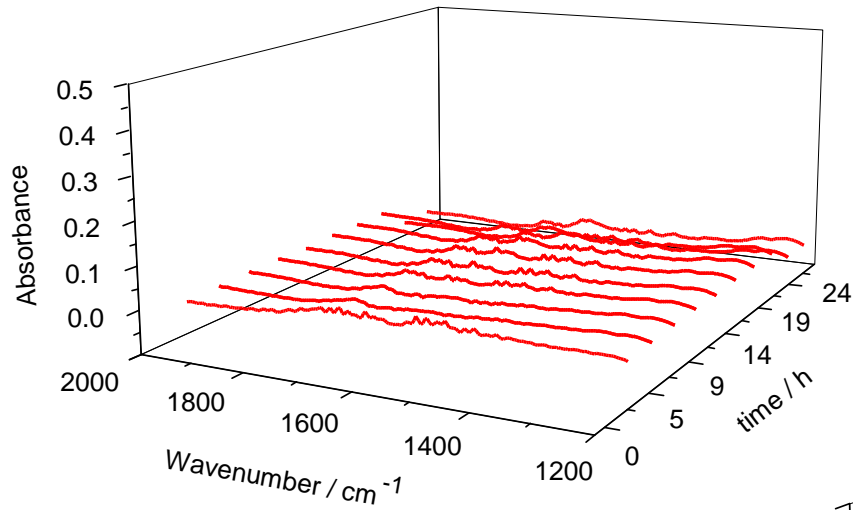
Attenuated Total Reflection – IR Spectroscopy



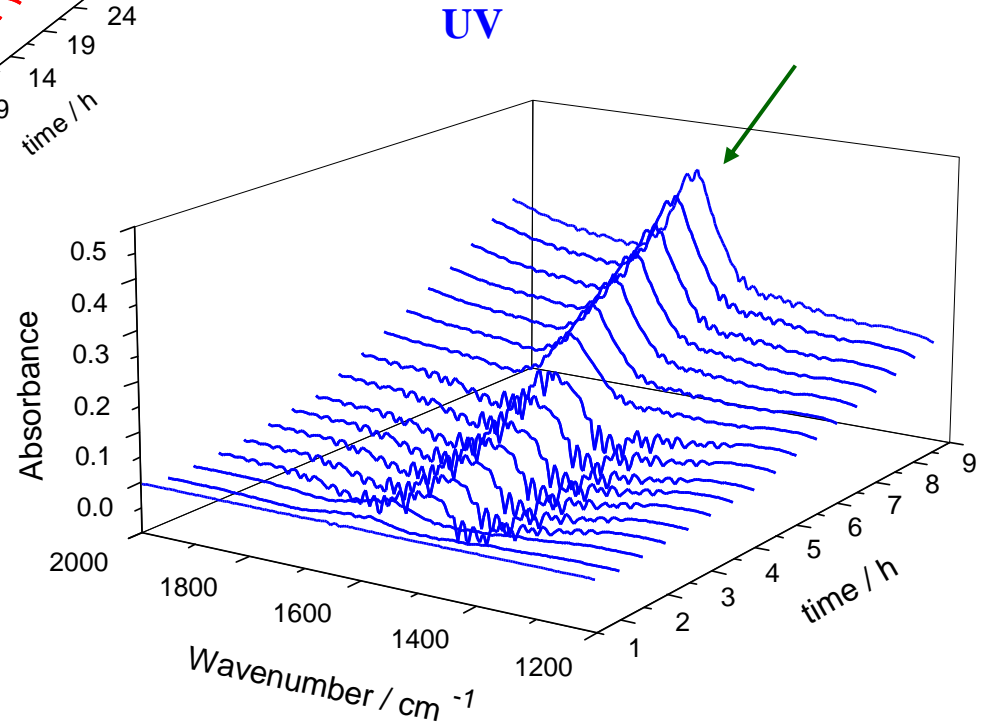
Oxalic acid and TiO₂ (anatase)



Water and TiO₂ (anatase)

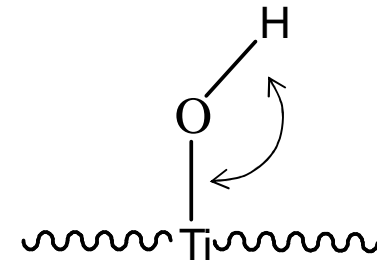
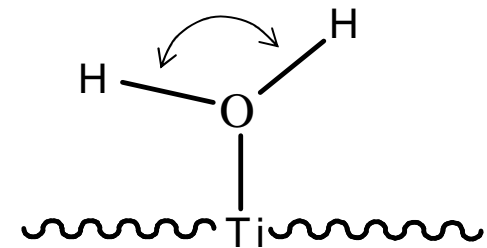
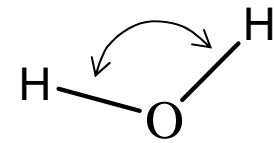
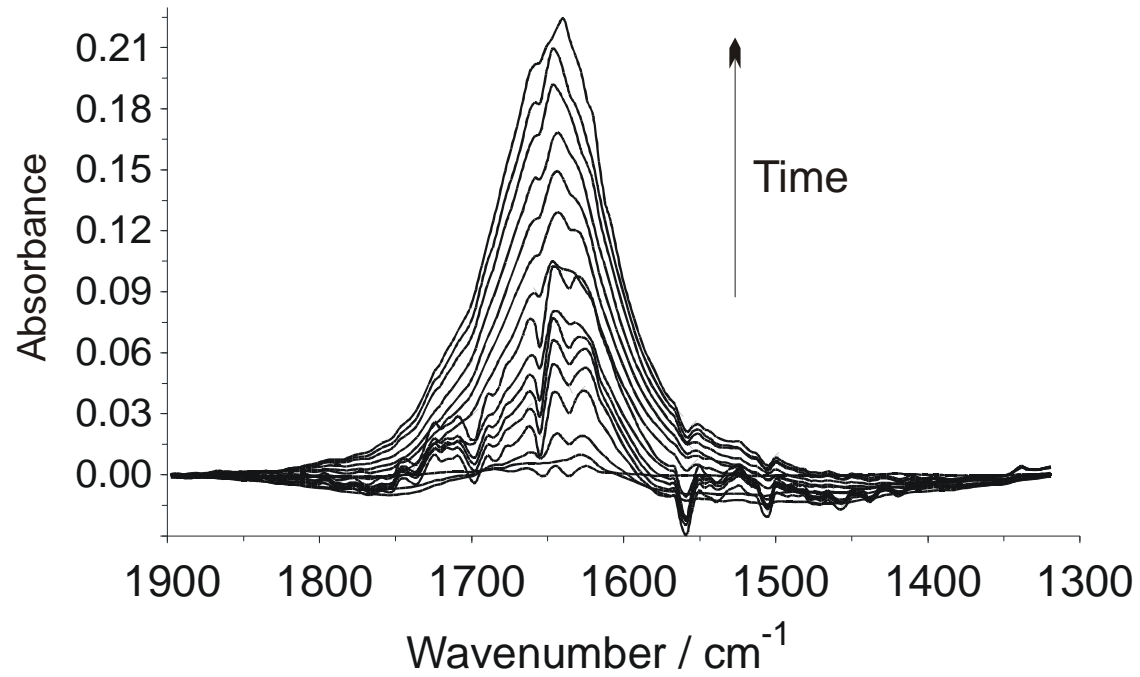


Dark

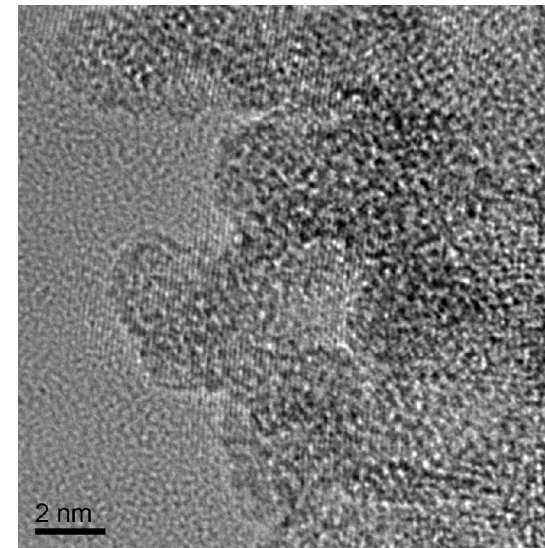
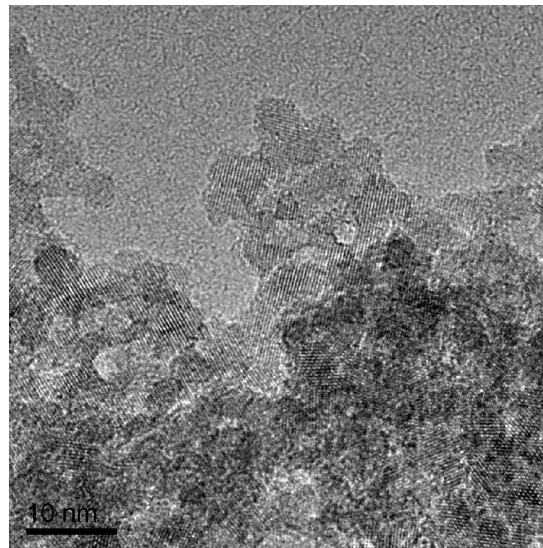
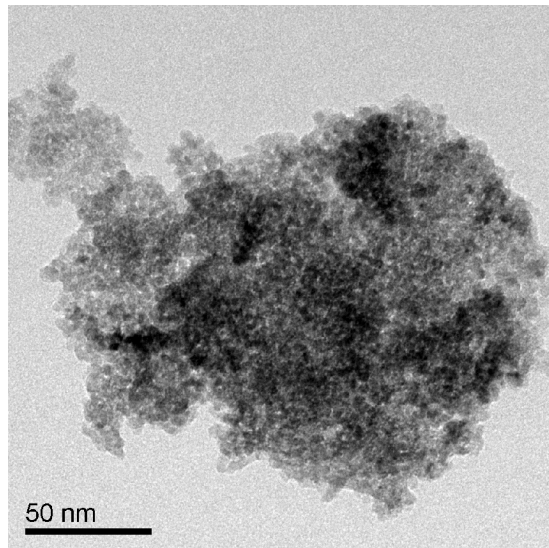
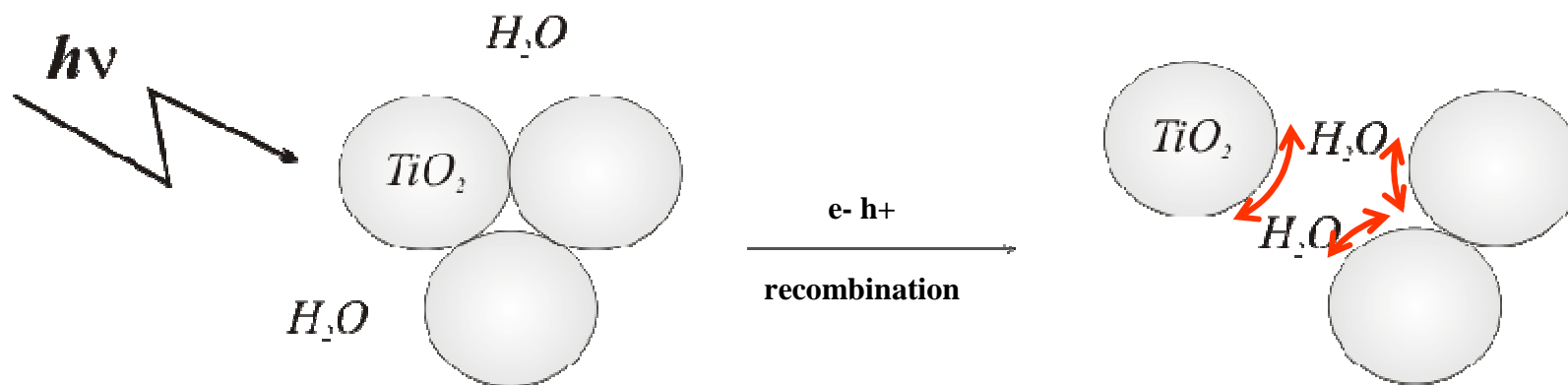


UV

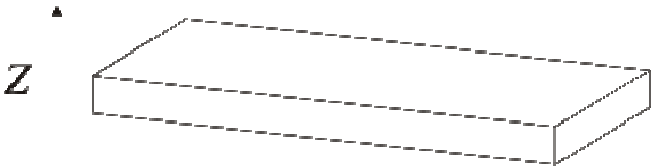
Bending mode of Water



The model: DEAGGREGATION

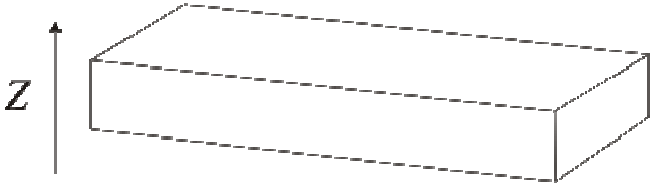


Estimation of the added Water



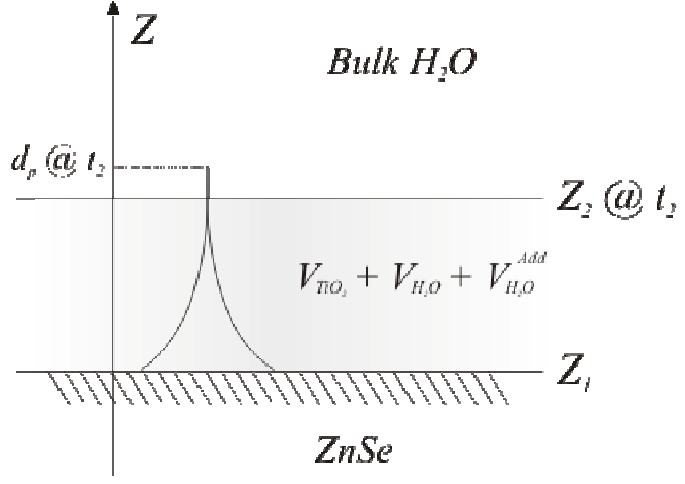
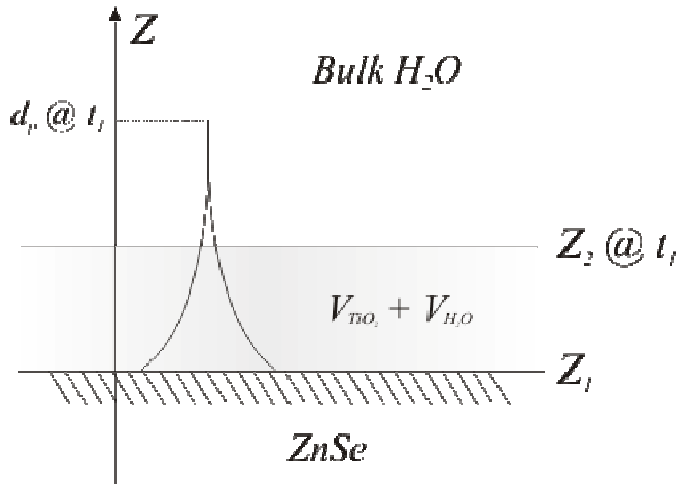
$$V'_{Total} = V_{no} + V_{H_2O} = x \times y \times (z_2 @ t_1)$$

t_1

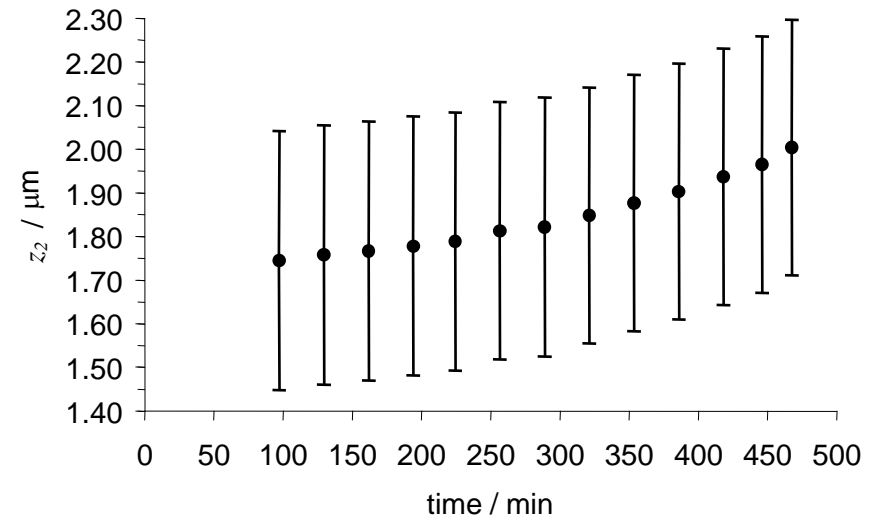
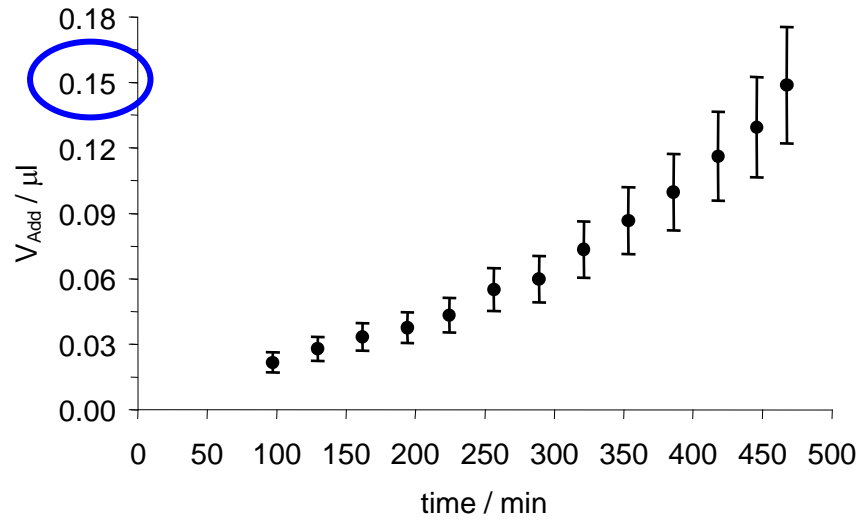


$$V'_{Total} = V_{no} + V_{H_2O} + V_{H_2O}^{Add} = x \times y \times (z_2 @ t_2)$$

t_2



Volume expansion



$V_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ added = 0.15 ml that is **18 %**



- Enhanced adsorption of oxalic acid under UV irradiation
- Bending mode of water in a wet TiO_2 layer rises only under UV irradiation
- The wet TiO_2 layer expands with a volume of water: free and adsorbed
- **Inactive e-/h+ pairs become active: DEAGGREGATION**

Open questions

- Additional surface area is generated upon UV irradiation: the same magnitude in the presence of any pollutant?
- The particles do not swim away, why?: EZ?



Thank you!

