Effect of particle shapes in self-assembled TiO2 films on photocatalytic activity

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Titanium dioxide (TiO_2) is an important functional material for photocatalytic applications due to its outstanding photocatalytic characteristics. The TiO_2 particle shape plays the significant role in photocatalytic activity. For example, one dimensional structures such as nanowires and nanorods can enhance the separation and offer a pathway for oriented charge carrier transport. Three dimensional structures such as flower-like and corallike show the extremely large surface area comparing to other structures. In this study, we synthesize TiO_2 colloidal nanoparticles which have various shapes by applying various experimental conditions. We manufacture TiO_2 nanoparticle films on glass substrates by applying self assembly techniques. Moreover, photocatalytic investigations for the TiO_2 -coated glass are carried out by measuring photodecomposition of methylene blue. Films are analyzed by XRD, FESEM, AFM and UV-Vis spectroscopy.