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A mini overview of miscellaneous uses of TiO₂ based nanomaterials

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Abstract: TiO₂ nanoparticles (NPs) are very necessary for the uses that they have in a variety of fields. Several different industries are now showing a significant amount of interest in distinct types of TiO₂ NPs, as well as their production, characterization, and significant applications. TiO₂ NPs will benefit greatly from the development of improved synthetic pathways and better characterization techniques as a result of their quick translation into industries, the fabrication of a large number of valuable goods, and their implications for the expansion of the economy. In this study, we will discuss the many methodologies for the synthesis of TiO₂ nanomaterials, the advancements that have been made in characterization methods, as well as the various unique industrial and other important application domains.

Keywords: Antibacterial property; biosensing; food packaging; photocatalysis; TiO₂.

1. INTRODUCTION

TiO₂ NPs may be used in a variety of industries and applications. TiO₂ NPs possess a variety of advantageous and intriguing qualities; thus, we investigate how they might be used in a few industries [1]. TiO₂ may be combined with other semiconductors to enhance the absorption of UV and visible light. TiO₂ NPs has thin band structure is responsible for this. TiO₂ nanomaterials may become more effective in different sectors (Table 1). These can act as photocatalysis as a result of their ability to aggregate photogenerated electrons and holes on diverse semiconductor surfaces, leading to an increase in the electrons' redox reactions. A consensus exists that anatase TiO₂ is the most effective photocatalyst. Despite the fact that TiO₂ already has a high photocatalytic activity, several attempts have been made to boost this activity by modifying either the surface or bulk properties of the material [2][3]. These modifications include adding metals to the surface, chelating the surface, and combining two different semiconductors into a single material. Recently, it has become standard practice to use UV-resistant polymers as substrates for nanoscale titanium dioxide photocatalysts. These polymers include polyethylene oxide, polystyrene dabs, and cellulose microspheres [4]. It is possible to enhance the photocatalytic activity of nano-TiO₂ photocatalyst. If photosynthesis were to increase, more food for humans may be generated. On food packaging film, various amounts of photocatalytic antimicrobial TiO₂ NPs [5] may be applied. As a result, the film may be used to keep germs at away. Nano-TiO₂ has been used as a potential nano-fertilizer or nano-pesticide [6] to increase agricultural yield, decrease crop diseases, and reduce the amount of hazardous organic solvents in agrichemicals. *Escherichia coli* and *Staphylococcus aureus*, Gram-positive and Gram-negative foodborne pathogenic bacteria, were tested against PBAT/TiO₂ nanocomposite films to better understand the zone of inhibition [7]. As a food source and implant material, TiO₂ nanocomposite may potentially enhance biological applications, such as the delivery of NPs for the formation of new cells [8]. In recent years, academics from a variety of disciplines, including physics, chemistry, and material science, has become interested in TiO₂ Nanowires. When porous TiO₂ NPs are coated with polyethylenimine (PEI), it is possible to investigate the viability of using titanium

dioxide's photocatalytic potential, which is to accomplish ultraviolet (UV) light-driven drug release PEI. The NPs are modified using PEI to obtain this outcome. By inhibiting the early drug release from PEI on the surface of multifunctional porous TiO₂ NPs [9] [10], an optimum circulation time may be delivered to cancer cells. For this, the channel may be blocked. In the future, TiO₂ NPs and nanocomposites may potentially be employed as glucose biosensors [11]. Researchers have designed a dye sensitized TiO₂ photodetector that may function as a disposable colorimetric biosensor. This photodetector was developed for a DNA detection method. As a consequence, TiO₂ may be used in a variety of industries and fields.

2. WATER TREATMENT SECTORS

Using TiO₂ and other n-type semiconductor metal oxides, it is feasible to eliminate organic pollutants from water by photolysis [12]. On the basis of the band placements of the Normal Hydrogen Electrode (NHE), organic contaminants can be eliminated. Nano-TiO₂ has low toxicity, high compound safety, and cheap cost make it a viable alternative for water and wastewater treatment [13]. TiO₂ nanocomposites are used in wastewater treatment by dye adsorption and dye degradation [14]. Various TiO₂ nanomaterials, for example, SWCNT/TiO₂ ultrathin film [15], Ag-Coated SiO₂@TiO₂ Core-Shell Nanocomposites [16], TiO₂-zeolite nanocomposite, [17] Au/TiO₂ NPs [18], TiO₂/graphene-based nanocomposites [19], TiO₂-Montmorillonite/ Polythiophene-SDS nanocomposites [20], Pt/TiO₂ Nanocomposites [21], clay-TiO₂ nanocomposites [22] are used in wastewater treatment. Nanodot MoS₂@3DOM TiO₂ composites has photocatalytic applications which made it useful in water treatment [23]. The ultrathin SWCNT/TiO₂ film is used to treat emulsified wastewater from industry and daily life. Additionally, it is utilized to decontaminate crude oil and gasoline [15]. When exposed to ultraviolet radiation, SiO₂@TiO₂ core-shell nanoparticles may degrade phenol and methylene blue [16]. This is essential for wastewater treatment. Regarding the photocatalytic elimination of water pollutants, the TiO₂-zeolite nanocomposite relies mostly on adsorption. As a result, it is an excellent approach to eliminate trace and untreated dye components at the conclusion of the dye manufacturing wastewater cleaning process. [17]. PVA/PAA/GO-

COOH@TiO₂ membranes are also capable of effectively treating dye wastewater [24]. The nanocomposite of TiO₂-rGO-AC is also utilized to remediate wastewater because it is effective in degrading tetracycline in water [25]. TiO₂ nanoparticles are gaining popularity as a photocatalyst due to their excellent physical and chemical safety, low cost, high photocatalytic activity, and environmental friendliness [26]. Additionally, TiO₂ nanoparticles leave behind a negligible quantity of carbon. Ultraviolet light might be absorbed by TiO₂ nanoparticles because their band gap energy is quite high. TiO₂ nanoparticles may be employed as a photocatalyst [1] because to the rapid return of photogenerated electrons and positive holes to their original states. When TiO₂ is combined with other semiconductors, the quantity of ultraviolet to visible light that may be absorbed might increase. This is because of how TiO₂ is manufactured. This makes it feasible for photogenerated electrons and holes to congregate on the surfaces of certain semiconductors. This may therefore increase the photocatalytic activity of TiO₂ nanomaterials by accelerating the redox process between electrons and holes [2]. Therefore, one of the most prevalent methods for enhancing the performance of photocatalysts [27] is to minimize the energy gap of TiO₂ to increase its ability to absorb visible light. The majority of individuals believe that anatase TiO₂ is the most effective photocatalyst. Numerous individuals have attempted to improve TiO₂'s photocatalytic performance by modifying either its surface qualities or its bulk properties. These modifications include doping, metal deposition, surface chelation, and the combination of two distinct kinds of semiconductors [3]. Different types of TiO₂ nanomaterials, for example, TiO₂/clay nanocomposite [28], Nanosized TiO₂ [3], TiO₂/hydrogel nanocomposite [29], Graphene/Pd/TiO₂ Nanocomposites [30], Polypropylene reduced graphene oxide-TiO₂ nanocomposite [31], ZnO/TiO₂/Ag₂O nanocomposite [32], TiO₂ nanofillers [33], Carbon Nanotube/Titanium Dioxide Nanocomposites [34], SiO₂@TiO₂ Core-Shell Nanocomposite [35], Ag/TiO₂ nanocomposites [36], C-TiO₂ doped cellulose acetate nanocomposite film [27] TiO₂-ITO and TiO₂-ZnO nanocomposites [37], Hexagonal boron nitride -TiO₂ Nanocomposite [38], Au/Ag-TiO₂ aerogel nanocomposites [39], gold capped TiO₂ NPs [40], WO₃/TiO₂ Nanocomposites [41] etc. can exhibit photocatalytic property. TiO₂ nanomaterials are utilized in removing arsenate, arsenite [13], HgO [42], Pb (II), Cu (II) [43], Hg (II) [44] from ground water. Because TiO₂ nanoparticles have such a wide surface area, they may remove heavy metals from groundwater. For example, photocatalytic reduction of Hg (II) from water may be accomplished using these nanomaterials in the removal of heavy metals from groundwater. Temperature and pH also play a role in these adsorption processes. When the pH is low enough, arsenate can be eliminated [43][44].

3. FOOD SECTORS

TiO₂ NPs can develop photosynthesis rate of plant by promoting the synthesis of chlorophyll A [45]. Nanomaterials based on TiO₂ can be utilized in food packaging [46]. TiO₂ nanocomposites such as SSPS/TiO₂

nanocomposites showed fantastic antimicrobial action against *Staphylococcus aureus*. So, SPSS/TiO₂ nanocomposites containing 7 wt. % of TiO₂ can be utilized for food packaging [47]. Copper-doped TiO₂ NPs with reduced graphene oxide (Cu₂O-TiO₂/rGO) nanocomposites may also be more effective at killing bacteria when exposed to visible light, with a larger zone of inhibition and a lower minimum inhibitory concentration for both Gram-positive and Gram-negative microbes. Because of this, these nanocomposites could be used to package food. Nanomaterials made from TiO₂ can kill bacteria and other microorganisms [48][49]. TiO₂ NPs, gold capped TiO₂ nanocomposites, and V doped TiO₂ NPs has antibacterial effect against two kinds of bacteria, *E. coli* and *B. megaterium* [50]. TiO₂ NPs has been incorporated in numerous biomaterials and it can induce antimicrobial activity [51]. PEG-PU-TiO₂ polymer nanocomposite possesses antibacterial property against *Escherichia coli* and *Bacillus subtilis* [52]. Reduced graphene oxide/ TiO₂ nanocomposites can also exhibit antibacterial property [53]. The antimicrobial activity of Ag-TiO₂ nanocomposites against the bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus* can be upgraded with increasing Ag content. [54]. Likewise, Chitosan-TiO₂ NPs-oleic acid nanocomposites illustrate great antimicrobial activity for both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria [55]. Fabrication of cellulose acetate nanofibers embedded with TiO₂/AgNP composite NPs result in *E. coli* and *S. aureus* growth inhibition [56]. The composite films can show the most antibacterial activity against *E. coli* when 5% molar ratios of Ag/TiO₂ are added. More than 99% of *E. coli* can be stopped from growing when Ag/TiO₂/cellulose nanocomposite films are used in UV light [57]. Sonoactivated TiO₂-DVDMS nanocomposite can exhibit excellent antibacterial property in killing *S. aureus* [58]. Ag-TiO₂/Ag/a-TiO₂ nanocomposite can show antibacterial activity against *E. coli* bacteria (Fig. 1) [59].

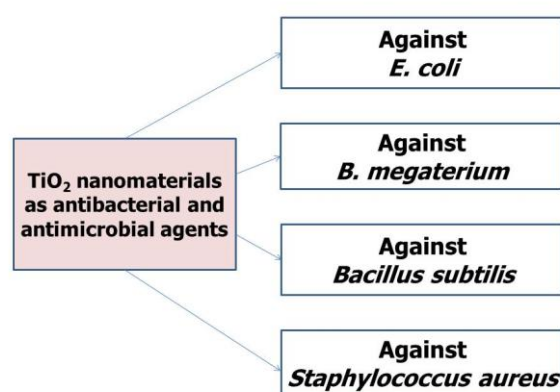


Fig. 1. TiO₂ nanomaterials as antibacterial and antimicrobial agents

4. MEDICINAL UTILIZATION

TiO₂ nanomaterials, for example, TiO₂ nanotubes (TNTs) [60], Porous titanium dioxide (TiO₂) NPs, [10] Daunorubicin-TiO₂ nanocomposites [61], TiO₂/CNT nanocomposites [62], TiO₂/PVA nanocomposite films [63], Pt/TiO₂ nanocomposite [64], Au@TiO₂

nanocomposites [65] have immense advances in medicinal industry. TNTs are employed as drug carriers to the surrounding tissues, and they have the ability to accelerate the tissue response to implant integration [60]. In pH-responsive drug delivery methods [61], nanocomposites of daunorubicin and titanium dioxide are used. TiO₂/CNT nanocomposites may be used for the detection of cancer cells and associated biorecognition when coated on carbon paper surfaces (Fig. 2) [62][63]. This is made feasible by applying a coating procedure to the nanocomposites. According to research, the stable metal–semiconductor Pt/TiO₂ nanocomposite is effective for treating cancer cells. Au@TiO₂ NCs may be employed as therapeutic agents, radiosensitizers, and photosensitizers for the treatment of cancer [65]. TiO₂ is a promising nanomaterial that is biocompatible; therefore, it is also competent for biomedical applications [66]. The nanocomposite comprised of bioactive TiO₂ particles and hydroxyapatite mixture is responsible for the expansion of bioactivity. This nanocomposite may provide improved osseointegration [67]. TiO₂/PVA

nanocomposite films with high TiO₂-dopants have application in biomedical such as UV-radiation blocking to save the skin of patients during the treatment with UV-radiation [63]. TiO₂ NPs is also utilized for chemotherapeutics. There are a variety of TiO₂ nanocomposites that may be used to create biosensors. They are capable of identifying a vast array of biological compounds. GOx-entrapped TiO₂–SWCNT composite [68] may function as a glucose sensor. Arrays of Au-Doped TiO₂ Nanotubes may be used in the study of alpha-Synuclein toxicity. If Au nanorod@SiO₂ NPs are incorporated into TiO₂-chitosan hydrogel [69][70], this material may be used to detect the presence of organophosphate pesticides. These TiO₂ nanoparticles and nanocomposites have the potential to serve as glucose biosensors as well. The development of a dye sensitized TiO₂ photodetector with the potential for use as a disposable colorimetric biosensor has been accomplished. This photodetector was created for a technique of DNA detection [11].

Table 1. Application of TiO₂ in miscellaneous industries.

TiO ₂ NPs	Application	References
SWCNT/TiO ₂	Used as semiconductor photocatalyst in water or wastewater treatment	[15]
TiO ₂ –zeolite nanocomposite	useful for removing trace and untreated dye compounds by photocatalytic degradation of water pollutants	[17]
SiO ₂ @TiO ₂ core-shell nanoparticle	Improved the degradation of phenol and methylene blue under UV irradiation by increasing the photocatalytic activity	[16]
PVA/PAA/GO-COOH@TiO ₂ membranes	Showed efficient photocatalytic capacity toward the three model dyes (CR, RhB, and MB)	[24]
TiO ₂ nanoparticle-coated film	Used for potential food packaging applications, especially for low density polyethylene (LDPE) film	[5]
SSPS/TiO ₂ nanocomposites	showed excellent antimicrobial activity against <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> PTCC 1431 (ATCC 25923),	[47]
(Cu ₂ O-TiO ₂ /rGO)	Used in food packaging	[48]
TiO ₂ nanotubes	Act as a drug carrier to the surrounding tissues, aiming to accelerate the tissue response regarding implant integration	[50]
Daunorubicin-TiO ₂ nanocomposites	Used in a “smart” pH-responsive drug delivery system	[51]
TiO ₂ /CNT nanocomposites	Applied in the respective biorecognition and detection of cancer cells.	[52]
TiO ₂ /PVA nanocomposite films	Utilized in UV-radiation blocking to save the skin of patients during the treatment with UV-radiation.	[53]
Pt/TiO ₂ nanocomposite	exhibit a remarkably high photodynamic efficiency and show more effectiveness in cancer-cell treatment	[54]
TiO ₂ powders	perform a better pinning to the bone	[57]
PEG-PU-TiO ₂ polymer nanocomposite	shows antibacterial property against <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	[52]
PBAT/TiO ₂ nanocomposite	demonstrate significant antimicrobial activity against <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , to understand to the zone of inhibition	[7]
Ag/TiO ₂ /cellulose nanocomposite	exhibit the best antibacterial performance against <i>E. coli</i>	[57]
TiO ₂ /Au/MWCNT/GC	Significantly applied in biological systems	[25]
TiO ₂ /clay nanocomposite	Photocatalysis	[28]

The use of photoelectrodes constructed of TiO₂, 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde, and Chitosan makes photoelectrochemical DNA detection possible [72]. In addition, a biosensor that is based on TiO₂ NPs has been created such that leucosis may be detected [73]. TiO₂

nanostructured films are also used in the production of biosensors of the third generation [74]. With the use of a bacterial cellulose/polypyrrole/TiO₂-Ag (BC/PPy/TiO₂-Ag) nanocomposite film, it is possible to identify and monitor the development of five potentially harmful

bacteria. The electrodes that have been enhanced using TiO₂/CNT nanocomposites could, in fact, be effective in bioanalytical applications, such as the construction of whole-cell biosensors with better detection sensitivity [52].

5. SUMMARY OF THE APPLICATIONS OF TiO₂ NPS

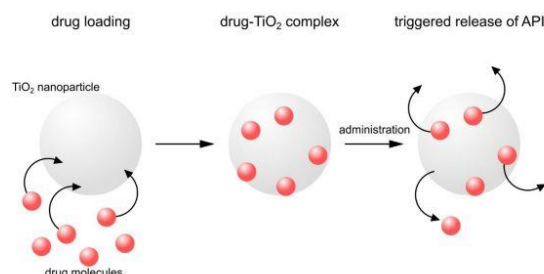


Fig. 2. Simplified mechanism of titanium (IV) oxide as drug delivery vehicle [71].

6. CONCLUSION

TiO₂ nanomaterials have vast application in various sectors. Industry use TiO₂ nanomaterials to improve their product which will be delivered to customer. These TiO₂ nanomaterials have great function against various bacteria, in degradation of organic pollutants along with air pollutants, in gas sensing, in solar cells. Some of these nanomaterials can purify both wastewater and ground water. These nanomaterials are also used in biosensor. Thus, it can be said that TiO₂ nanomaterials bring a revolution in industry.

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