

Supplementary Materials

Immobilization of TiO₂ Nanoparticles in Hydrogels Based on Poly(methyl acrylate) and Succinamide Acid for the Photodegradation of Organic Dyes

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1. Experimental sections

1.1. Photocatalytic H₂ production test

The photocatalytic H₂ production experiments of the TiO₂, PMA-TiO₂, and SAA-TiO₂ samples were conducted using a photocatalytic system (Labsolar-IIIAG, PerfectLight, Shanghai, China). During the reaction, powder TiO₂ or bulk hydrogel-TiO₂ was immersed in 90 ml deionized water, and 10 ml triethanolamine (TEOA) was added as the sacrificial reagent. The suspension was illuminated under vacuum condition, and the H₂ signal was collected half an hour by a gas chromatography (GC2060, Ruimin). The experiment was carried out under magnetic stirring when powder TiO₂ was used. Considering the hydrogel-TiO₂ is lumpy, the magnetic stirring was not employed. A 300 W xenon lamp (PerfectLight, Beijing, China) was used as the light source. The optical power density was measured as 0.8 W/cm², using an optical power meter (PLMW2000, PerfectLight, Shanghai, China).

1.2. Photocatalytic degradation test

The photodegradation performance of TiO₂, PMA-TiO₂, and SAA-TiO₂ samples were evaluated by eliminating methyl orange, methylene blue, rhodamine B, and bright green at a concentration of 20 mg/L. During the test, the bulk hydrogel-TiO₂ was placed in 20 mL organic dye aqueous solution. The mixture was left for 30 min in the dark to obtain absorption-desorption equilibrium. At 15 min intervals, 4 mL of the solution was sampled to measure the absorbance. For comparison, the powder TiO₂ was also used to test the performance when degrading organic dyes. The conditions were the same, but the experiment was carried out under magnetic stirring. Besides, a disposable syringe filter (PTFE, 0.22 µm) was used to remove the solid particle and obtain a clear liquid when sampling. The changes in absorbance of the solution were analyzed on a UV-Vis spectrophotometer (UV-2700, Shimadzu, Shanghai, China) by recording the absorption spectrum in the wavelength range of 200–500 nm. The optical power density was measured as 0.8 W/cm², using an optical power meter (PLMW2000, PerfectLight, Beijing, China).

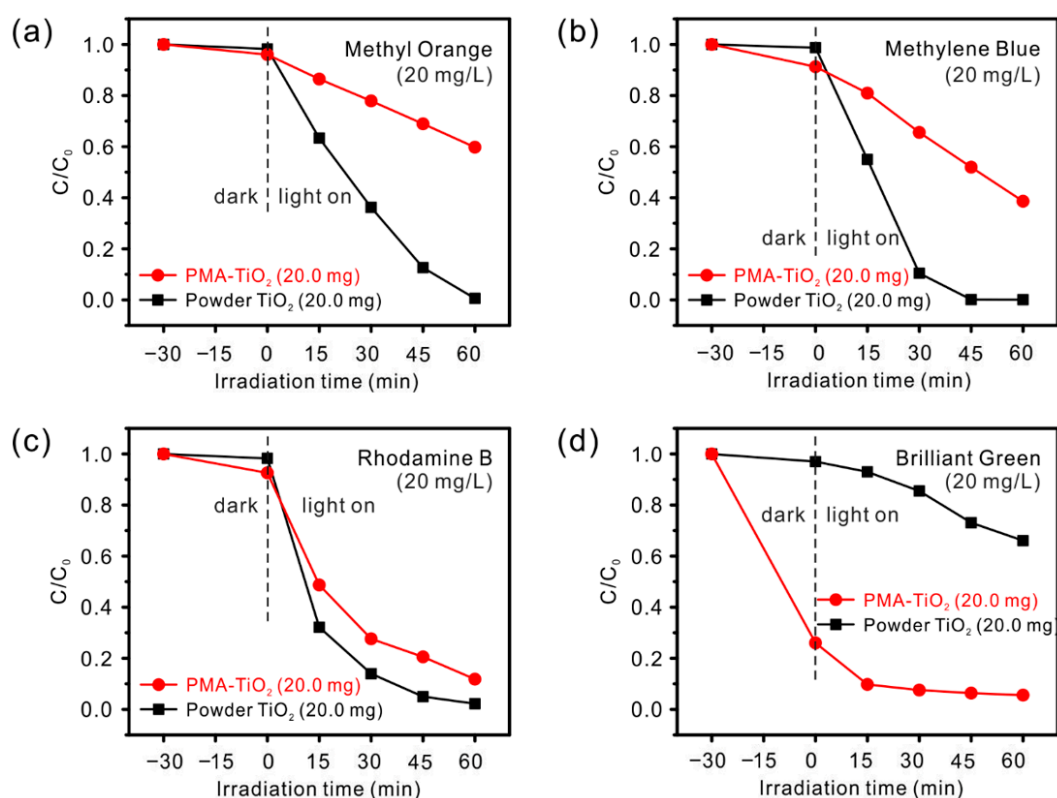


Figure S1. Photodegradation efficiency of (a) methyl orange; (b) methylene blue; (c) Rhodamine B; and (d) bright green by powdery TiO₂ and PMA-TiO₂ (20.0 mg) hydrogel, respectively. C_0 represents the initial concentration of the organic dyes, and C represents the real-time concentration.

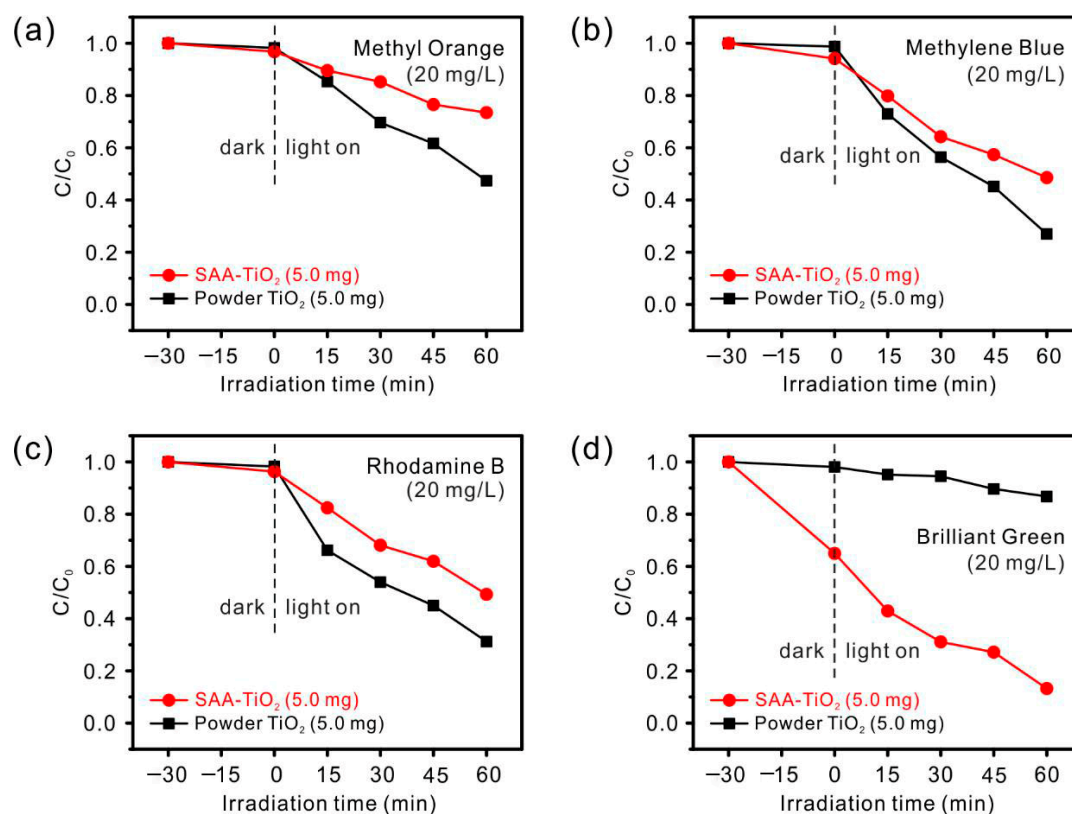


Figure S2. Photodegradation efficiency of (a) methyl orange; (b) methylene blue; (c) Rhodamine B; and (d) bright green by powdery TiO₂ and SAA-TiO₂ (5.0 mg) hydrogel, respectively. C_0 represents the initial concentration of the organic dyes, and C represents the real-time concentration.

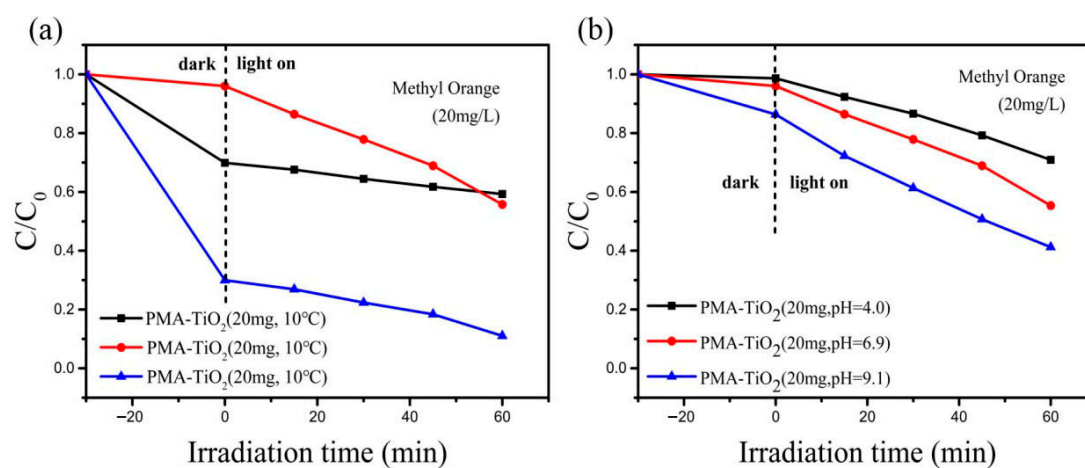


Figure S3. Catalytic performance of PMA-TiO₂ at (a) different temperatures and (b) different pH.