Zinc Oxide NPs as Solar Photo-Catalysis for Water Disinfection

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Abstract: Zinc oxide (ZnO) nanostructures have been revealed to be a photocatalytic prospect owing to the truth that they are cost-effective. Titanium dioxide (TiO_2) and ZnO nanoparticles (NPs) are commonly utilized in sunscreens as inorganic physical sun blockers. However, ZnO is more operative in UVA (315-400 nm) range and TiO_2 in the UVB (280-315 nm) range. The combination of these particles assures a broad-band UV protection. However, to solve the cosmetic drawback of these opaque sunscreens, micro-sized TiO_2 and ZnO have been increasingly replaced by TiO_2 and ZnO NPs. In many cases ZnO NPs can be counted as an effective replacement of TiO_2 NPs, however, the former has a lower cost. This review is firstly focusing on the photo-degradation procedures using ZnO NPs. Secondly, there are numerous methods that have been used to enhance the photo-response of zinc oxide nano-structures. Additionally, with the high efficiency of the photocatalytic response of ZnO NPs, it has been shown that it can be obtained with the appropriate choice of the required nanostructures regarding the synthesis technique and also the correct photocatalytic system. ZnO NPs is a vital material for numerous industrial usages. ZnO has been found to be effective in various strains of microorganisms, and numerous research articles on this area are evidence of its potential as antimicrobial agent.

Keywords: Zinc Oxide, NPs, Solar Photo-Catalytic, Persistent Organic Pollutants, Wastewater Treatment

1. Introduction

Lately, application of water improvement and reuse is acquiring focus swiftly globally as a result of the water shortage developed due to environment modification and unsatisfactory water source administration (Figure 1). Restricted accessibility to well-maintained water resources as well as water requirements go beyond the accessible sources. Accessibility to clean water is becoming an ever-increasing trouble in a broadening international economic situation and also population countries (Biswas, 2006). One of the appealing remedies in reaction to water problems is the implementation of wastewater improvement and also reuse ventures to make sure a maintainable water progression and also management (Longo et al., 2016). Nonetheless, worries still arise coming from the reality that constant organic toxins (stand outs) can still exist in cured water. Stand outs are carbon-based chemical elements that are resisting to environment deterioration and have been continuously launched right into the setting. POPs may induce intense damage to individual and wildlife as a result of their inadequate biodegradability and carcinogenic attributes in nature (Kumar, Liu, Chu, Zhang, & Li, 2019).

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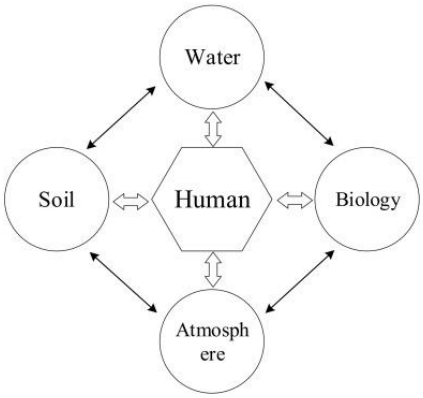

Figure 1: The fundamental elements in the water resources management (Kumar et al., 2019)

Advanced therapy innovations are critical to make sure that the restored water is without POPs. Several water procedure methods have been employed to remove stand outs coming from water flows consisting of adsorption, membrane layer splitting up and also coagulation (Lee et al., 2000); however, these procedures simply concentrate or change the stubborn organic pollutants coming from the water to strong phase. Additional expense and also procedures are needed to treat the second pollutants as well as replenish the adsorbents (Guo, Lin, Zheng, Xiao, & Li, 2012). For this explanation, advanced oxidation procedures ("AOPs") have been suggested for the eradication of stubborn natural contaminants, specifically for those along with reduced biodegradability (Figure 2) (Alshehri & Malik, 2019).

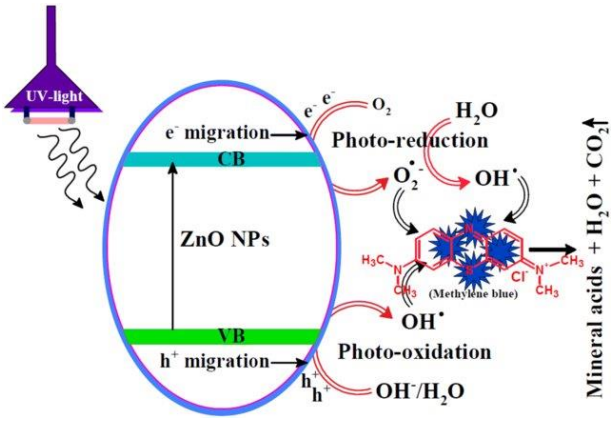

Figure 2: Schematic representation of photocatalytic degradation using ZnO nanoparticles (Alshehri & Malik, 2019)

AOP systems may be categorized as homogeneous or even heterogeneous photo-catalysis. Uniform photo-catalysis utilizes Fenton's reagent, which is a combination of hydrogen peroxide as well as an Fe2+ salt towards generate hydroxyl radicals under UV irradiation at insights over 300 nm (Tony, Zhao, Purcell, & El-Sherbiny, 2009). On the other hand, among semiconductors, titanium dioxide (TiO2) has been the strongest material studied in recent years, utilizing semiconductor oxides as a photocatalyst (He et al., 2020). Being obligated to repay to its own low production expense and excellent chemical security, it has been extensively worked with in photo-degradation of all-natural materials, like those with a higher running of nitrogen-containing natural substances (Khan, Rahaman, Al-Jubayer, & Islam, 2015), unstable organic substances (Magalhaes, Andrade, Nunes, & Mendes, 2017) as well as chemicals (Lelario, Bianco, Bufo, & Scrano, 2021) along with a UV source of light

(Alaton & Balcioglu, 2001), the request of TiO2 making use of solar energy is extremely limited by its own big band void (3.2 eV) and reduced quantum effectiveness. Substantial attempts like doping (Monneyron, Manero, Foussard, Benoit-Marquié, & Maurette, 2003), development of nanocomposites (Autin et al., 2013), surface area alteration, color sensitization (A.-n. Wang et al., 2016) and rare-earth element (Mianxince, Liang, Tianliang, & Xiaoyong, 2008) have been created towards prolonging photo response and also photoactivity of TiO2 in noticeable lightweight area. Like TiO2, ZnO is a n-type semiconductor oxide however has not been well examined in previous research studies. ZnO has been proposed as a substitute photocatalyst to TiO2 as it have exacted same band gap electricity but displays greater absorption performance throughout a sizable portion of the solar sphere when matched up to TiO2 (Wang et al., 2008). To review the photosensitization of ZnO and also TiO2 (Mahadik, Patil, Pathan, Salunke-Gawali, & Butcher, 2020) contrasted the photo-degradation of herbicides in seeping water using the ZnO as well as TiO2 under sunlight irradiation as well as located nonstoichiometric of ZnO leaving it a much better photocatalyst reviewed to TiO2 under solar energy irradiation (Bhardwaj, Dogra, Pal, & Singh, 2019).

Owing to the advances in the operation of photocatalysis in the deterioration of stubborn all-natural toxins, this procedure has been created for photocatalytic membrane layer activators in a sizable range of uses. Semiconductor oxides to become utilized in heterogenous photocatalysis are typically either-put on hold in the effluent to be addressed or even immobilized on a help (Ibhadon & Fitzpatrick, 2013). In reality, the hassle of slurry-type activators, wherein the semiconductor oxides are essentially suspended in the effluent, is the need for an additional phase to recover the photocatalyst; such a procedure is definitely not needed to allow use of an immobilized reactor. In reality, incorporating photocatalysis into a membranes layer process is a system that ensures a continuous procedure along with a very good recovery of the photocatalyst (X. Wang et al., 2016).

The benefits of photocatalysts put on hold in the liquid solutions are reduced tension reduction across the activator, really good mass transactions of pollutants from the majority fluid stage onto active area websites of photocatalysts, and regulation of a better system for contaminants adsorption as well as desorption procedure throughout the response (Qiu et al., 2008). To make up for the expense restriction of recouping the photocatalyst, various photocatalysis which takes advantage of sunlight irradiation has been suggested as an extra economical process that could be performed without the requirement for a man-made, and typically costly, irradiation resource.

Recently, numerous documents on construction and the implementation of photo-catalyst have been released because of the conveniences of the photo-catalysis process (Niu et al., 2021). Thus, an assessment about the assortment of appropriate photo-catalyst assembly approaches to get the intended dimension of zinc oxide nanostructures based upon particular request and viability of photovoltaic photo-catalytic body ought to be performed to alleviate the implementation of this particular modern technology on a greater scale. The primary purposes of the present customer review are to review the job of zinc oxide NPs as solar photo-catalysts, treatment of zinc oxide NPs in water procedure, photo-solar degradation procedures of zinc oxide photo-catalysis, synthesis procedures of zinc oxide NPs, contrasts in between photo-catalytic membrane layer reactor as well as the put-on hold system, along with future obstacles as well as prospects of utilization zinc oxide NPs in these processes (Sowrirajan, Maheshwari, & Joseph, 2022). Advantages with knowing the residential properties as well as qualities of the zinc oxide photocatalyst within this report, created under various fabrication as well as alteration methods, can easily deliver analysts along with various assumptions in the direction of photo-catalysis

leads that can potentially be obtained when the zinc oxide photo-catalysts are incorporated into various procedure devices (Arthanareeswari, Devikala, & Sridharan, 2019).

2. Zinc Oxide Nanostructure

Nanostructures of zinc oxide are extremely crucial for the photo-catalytic response since it will calculate their programs in numerous fields. An appropriate nanostructure of ZnO will certainly enable higher productivity of process and enhance the recuperation of photocatalyst during post-treatment stage. A variety of previous studies have been focused on the production of zinc oxide along with different nanostructures (Rajar, Balouch, Bhanger, Sherazi, & Kumar, 2018).

There are a variety of methods for the formation of ZnO nanostructures. These formation procedures may be divided right into solution-based and also water vapor period approaches. Scientists have forecasted that the bandgap electricity is inversely relative to the dimension of semiconductor substances based upon a recognized style (Choi, Kang, & Oh, 2012). This signifies that excellent command of prep work states affects the performance of photocatalysis (Gu et al., 2016).

2.1 Mechanism and Fundamentals of ZnO photo-catalysis"

Zinc oxide is a kind of semiconductor having a broad straight band-gap distance (3.38 eV), sizable excitation binding power (61 meV) and also deep violet to borderline (UV) absorption at space temperature level (Kimiagar, 2015). It is an outstanding semiconductor oxide that has ideal excellent power, technical and also optical properties (Fenoll, Ruiz, Hellín, Flores, & Navarro, 2011), comparable to titanium dioxide. Furthermore, zinc oxide certainly not simply possesses antifouling as well as anti-bacterial buildings, however additionally good photocatalytic task (Rozas, Contreras, Mondaca, Pérez-Moya, & Mansilla, 2010). On top of that, as stated through Munoz et al. (Munoz, Rieradevall, Torrades, Peral, & Domènech, 2005), the development cost of zinc oxide falls to 75% lower than that of titanium dioxide and aluminum oxide nanoparticles. Because of the advantages of zinc oxide over titanium dioxide, zinc oxide has been proposed to become utilized in various photocatalysis (Rodriguez, Santos, & Romero, 2011), the photocatalytic various oxidation steps may be detailed as revealed in Figure 3.

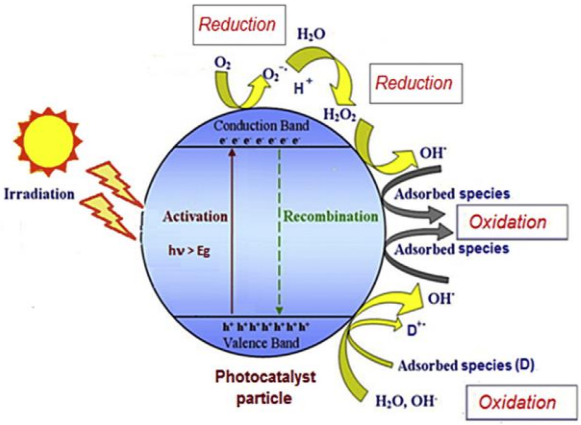

Figure 3: Heterogeneous photocatalytic oxidation steps (Spasiano, Marotta, Malato, Fernandez-Ibanez, & Di Somma, 2015)

The heterogeneous photocatalytic oxidation steps can be explained as follow:

1. Organic toxins diffuse coming from the liquefied period towards the area of zinc oxide.
2. Adsorption of the natural pollutants externally of zinc oxide.
3. Oxidation in the adsorbed process as well as elimination reactions.
4. Desorption of the items.
5. Extraction of the products coming from the user interface region.

As discussed previously, zinc oxide has been revealed that to display greater absorption effectiveness around a much larger portion of solar range contrasted to Titanium dioxide. The photo-activity of an agitator is regulated through its capability to produce photo-generated electron-hole pairs. Zinc oxide has a major efficacy as a catalyst, but the issue is that photogenerated electron-hole sets recombine easily causing complications. Besides, its conversion efficiency has also been impaired by its own visual absorption capacity. Because of such great efforts, it is possible to avoid the recombination of electrons and holes and even to decrease the band gap of metal oxide.

2.2 Enhancing ZnO photocatalytic activity

2.2.1 ZnO Coupling with Other Semiconductors

Coupling of pair of semiconductors is a method that involves combined semiconductor metal oxides including (Mx-Oy) to (Me-zOt) where M and Me work with the metallic type as well as x, y, z, and also t are the oxidation conditions in these steel oxides (Gharoy Ahangar, Abbaspour-Fard, Shahtahmassebi, Khojastehpour, & Maddahi, 2015). Nanocomposites are preferable in a number of applications, especially for photocatalysis, as a result of their greater light absorption, better reductions of photoinduced electron opening set recombination and raised management separation. Al-Fori et al. (2014) have revealed that the improved custody separation resulted from an extended life-time of custody carriers through inter-particle electron move between the transmission bands of nanocomposites causing a bigger number of electrons associated with a photo-degradation response (Al-Fori, Dobretsov, Myint, & Dutta, 2014). These exceptional buildings are credited a stepwise energy level structure in the complex (Liang, Xiao, Mo, & Huang, 2012). Yet another comparable research study (Qalyoubi, Al-Othman, & Al-Asheh, 2021) has additionally revealed that very energetic photocatalysts may be gotten by coupling two semiconductors possessing various band spaces. Located on their proposed device, relatively efficient charge separation might be attained because of photoinduced electrons that are transferred out of the photocatalyst. Consequently, the heterostructure of nanocomposites functions as a desirable substitute for enriching the photoactivity of photocatalysts.

2.3 ZnO Coupling with Nanocarbon Component

Heterojunction photocatalysts are additionally reliable at enriching the residential properties of ZnO photo-catalyst (Lamba, Umar, Mehta, & Kansal, 2015) that the heterostructure of photo-catalysts, combined with the benefits of different compounds featuring light absorption, fee separation, as well as charge transfer between various sort of semiconductors can easily trigger rapid photogenerated cost splitting up. Carbon dioxide nanostructures play crucial roles in the advancement of nanocomposites. It has been mentioned that the hetero-junction of ZnO with carbon dioxide nanotubes can improve the efficiency of nanocomposites by working as electron scavenging representatives (Mahmoodi, Karimi, Mazarji, & Moghtaderi, 2018). Graphene (from the carbon dioxide loved ones), has been of significant passion in many requests including photocatalysis, fuel picking up, photovoltaic devices, and gas mobiles in a final couple of years because of its superb electric energy, high surface location, high electron flexibility as well as chemical security (Meng, Lin, & Yang, 2013). Cysteine-covered zinc

oxide to graphene oxide composite, which was earlier prepped using coprecipitation method, came along in photo-degradation of Rhodamine B (Alvi, Al-Ghamdi, & ShaheerAkhtar, 2017). Optimal add-on of entering cysteine covered ZnO photo-catalyst presented a rise in the degeneration productivity at regarding 98.13% within forty-five minutes. Figure 4 shows the representation diagram of CO2 photoreduction mechanism by ZnO NPs (Liu, Ye, Liu, Li, & Ji, 2016).

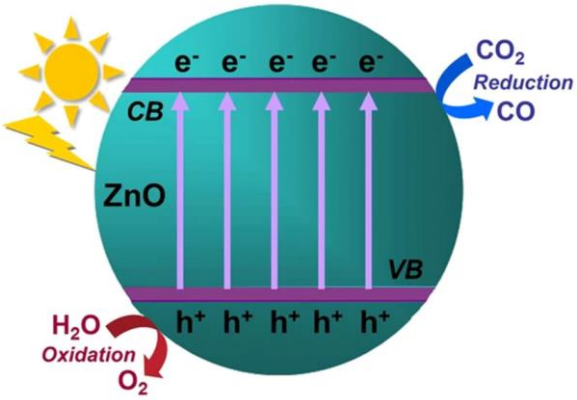

Figure 4: Schematic diagram of CO_2 photoreduction mechanism of ZnO NPs (Liu et al., 2016)

2.4 Crystal Growth and Shape Control of ZnO Nanostructures

To enhance the photoactivity, a variety of techniques have been made use of to tweak the morphology, size, and development of zinc oxide. It has been taken note that the photoactivity may be changed through differing the surface area lattice position and also the surface area of photocatalysts (Jimenez-Cadena, Comini, Ferroni, Vomiero, & Sberveglieri, 2010). As an example, topping solutions have been efficiently utilized to affect the morphology of zinc oxide NPs (Ng, Wong, Phung, & Chua, 2013). In a study done on ZnO nanosheets has revealed that the velocity of forerunner (sodium hydroxide) being incorporated to the zinc acetate remedy can result in various growth devices of ZnO nanostructures (Xu, Qin, Mishra, Gu, & Zhu, 2010). According to that work, when a sluggish add-on cost of OH^- was executed, the development of zinc oxide nanostructures chose a consistent direction. When each forerunner (salt hydroxide and also zinc acetate) solution was combined all at once, nevertheless, would certainly cause the response to conduct faster (Figure 5).

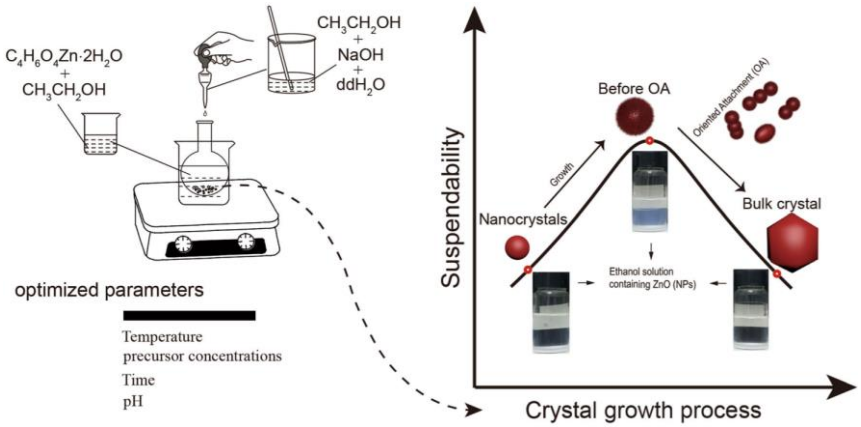

Figure 5: Schematic illustration of ZnO NPs Crystal growth and shape control (Cao, Gong, Shu, Zhu, & Liang, 2019)

2.5 Surface Modification of ZnO Nanostructures

Owing to the presence of Zn-O-Zn bonds in zinc oxide NPs, jumble occurs quickly, therefore definitely restricting zinc nanoparticle applications (Zavar, 2017). Surface modification might be the greatest method for ensuring much better diffusion through stopping the heap of ZnO. Furthermore, area customization has likewise been utilized to tune the UV and noticeable lightweight photo-luminescence, as the chemical and also physical characteristics of ZnO NPs can easily be modified using chemical surface area customization via chemical therapy (Hassan, Hashim, & Bououdina, 2013). Ligand molecules are likewise popular topping solutions utilized in the covering technique to stop the aggregation as well as handle the development of nanoparticles. The ligand coating works as a protecting barrier and also blocks out the cost transportation between neighboring nanoparticles prior to recombination can happen (Ju, Xu, Zhang, Guo, & Cao, 2014). Lately, stabilization of ZnO NPs with covering technique making use of polymeric ligands has verified to be better than monomeric ligands (Figure 6). This results from the existence of steric and electrostatic pressures that were made use of to support the ZnO in the polymeric ligands however in the last, just electrostatic pugnacious pressures can support the ZnO stabilization (Yue, Lu, & Zhang, 2009).

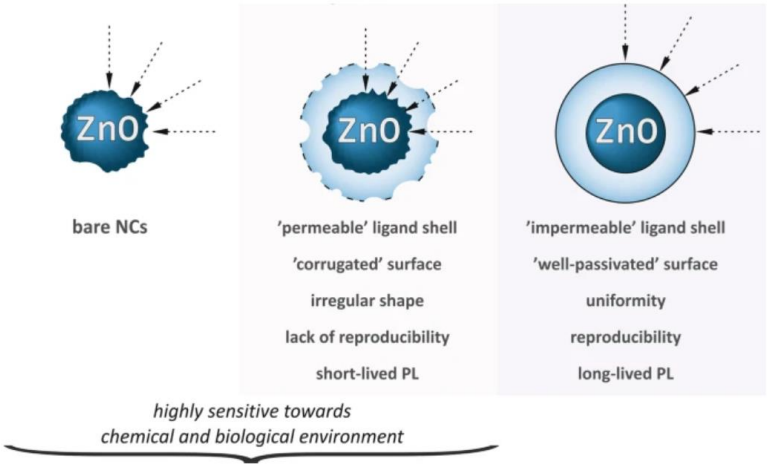

Figure 6: Schematic representation of nanocrystal-ligand interface structure of ZnO NPs (Wolska-Pietkiewicz et al., 2019)

Poly (vinyl pyrrolidone) was stated to lessen the area's complimentary power with its attachment on the ZnO area, therefore, bring about slow down the growth of the features as well as given really good distribution of the NPs. Photo-catalytic activity of generated photo-catalyst in the deterioration of Reactive Black 5 was 96.9% at a cost constant of 0.0199 min − 1. presents an illustrative illustration of surface alteration procedures. that plastic grafting may penetrate the all-natural source and also split the aggregated nanoparticles (Wolska-Pietkiewicz et al., 2019).

3. Photocatalytic Immobilization and Suspension Mechanism

The combination photo-catalytic-membrane method is an encouraging technology that does not call for intricate recuperation of photo-catalysts after water treatment (Li, Sun, Lu, Ao, & Li, 2020). Photocatalytic reactions utilizing this combination modern technology utilize fixed nanostructured photocatalysts to boost the absorption of photons and also reactants to ensure the stimulant carries out certainly not need to have to be put on hold in solution (Jang, Won, Hwang, & Choy, 2006). The photo-catalytic procedure is obtaining appeal because of the truth that nanostructured photocatalysts have

high productivity in derogatory relentless all-natural toxins into easily naturally degradable materials. Photo-catalysis combined to membrane processes, such as ultrafiltration and also nanofiltration (Figure 7), have been released in a lot of treatments such as the removal of the endocrine system substance (Luo et al., 2014).

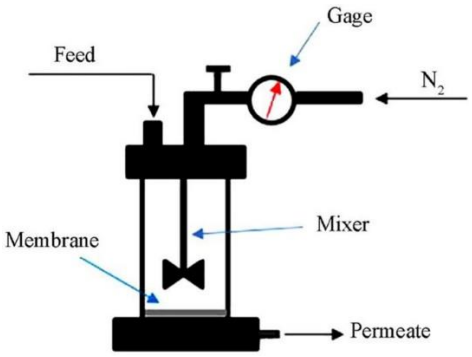

Figure 7: Schematic diagram of the filtration system (Kakar et al., 2022)

There is a substantial development in photocatalytic membrane activators (PMR) through which direct sunlight is taken advantage of in the unit as opposed to ultraviolet lighting (Raffaele Molinari, Lavorato, & Argurio, 2017). The alternative in source of light is more beneficial because of its reduced energy expense and also larger application in region with effortless access to sun light. While the combination photo-catalytic-membrane method is an appealing modern technology in water procedure, there are some technical constraints which need to become conquered prior to it may be executed in full scale in different fields. First, rather couple of studies have been lugged out on the security of plastic membrane layers in PMR. Second, there are only handful of researches that have related the dynamic versions and also mass move limitations that influence the functionality of the separation in PMR bodies. Third, researches on the performance of PMR devices must be conducted making use of the genuine water examples as opposed to man-made substitutes to investigate the actual disorders of the body, consisting of the impacts of colloidal fragments in the direction of the stability of photo-catalytic performance. The well-established benefits of PMR along with a photo-catalyst debilitated on a membrane layer substrate are (Qi, Li, & Dong, 2013):

1. Pollutants may be disintegrated, either in feed or even in go through.
2. Dependable change and also reduced flux-decline price.
3. No additional photocatalyst recuperation measures.
4. Minimization of membrane layer fouling as a result of to the decomposition of natural impurities and also improved hydrophilicity of the tweaked membrane layer.

Photo-catalytic membrane layers are used in separation procedures as a result of to their remarkable residential or commercial properties such as antifouling, anti-microbial, super hydrophilicity, simultaneous photocatalytic oxidation and also separation contrasted to typical membrane layers (X. Zhang et al., 2014). There are pair of setups of PMR with photo-catalytic membranes:

- membrane with photoactive level based on penetrable non-photoactive assistance and
- membrane along with non-photoactive level formed on penetrable photoactive support.

In the past, the irradiation resource is positioned on the feed edge, and in the last, the irradiation source is positioned on the go through the side. The main perks of the membrane layer configuration along

with the photoactive coating formed on porous non-photoactive support are fouling relief and also increase the flux of go through due to the fact that the natural materials may be decayed before being moved with the membrane (Ong, Ng, & Mohammad, 2018). Membranes along with a non-photoactive coating based on a permeable photoactive help are much less popular in comparison to the arrangement on non-photoactive assistance. In the scenario of the photo-active support, photodegradation is executed on the permeate side as well as thus induces a decline in go through water high quality (Molinari, Palmisano, Loddo, Mozia, & Morawski, 2013). Immobilization of photo-catalyst bits on membranes experiences some technical obstacles. Li and Li (Li & Li, 2006) have mentioned that a photo-catalytic membrane may undergo damages after a lengthy irradiation time period. Therefore, through examinations of durability, as well as ultraviolet illumination and also hydroxyl revolutionary protection of polymer membranes has to be administered so as to get over the damages of plastic membrane layers. As opposed to paralyzed units, put on hold reactor systems can easily be determined as a degradation process in which nanoparticles are suspended in water to wastewater. Therefore, agitator separation as well as rehabilitation is a crucial action for stimulant recycling where possible. It may be wrapped up that both units have their very own benefits and also drawbacks; for that reason, the collection of a suitable system ought to be based upon the requirements of a certain function (Chen et al., 2018).

4. ZnO Nanostructures for Water Disinfection

The world experiences a rising challenge for sufficient clean water owing to intimidations coming from increasing request and decreasing source (Raimi, Adedotun, Emmanuel, & Anu, 2019). Even though there are surviving technologies for water disinfection, their confines, predominantly the formation of disinfection-by-products, have led to researches on alternative methods. Zinc oxide, an essential chemical in the rubber and pharmaceutical industries, has attracted interest as antimicrobial agent (Kołodziejczak-Radzimska & Jesionowski, 2014). In nanoscale, zinc oxide has shown antimicrobial properties which make its prospective great for numerous requests. This review discusses the synthesis of zinc oxide with focus on precipitation method, its antimicrobial property and the factors affecting it, disinfection mechanisms, and the potential application to water disinfection.

Water disinfection is used to kill pathogens and is accomplished through various conventional methods such as chlorination, ultraviolet treatment and ozonation. However, these methods have their limitations (Zhang, Li, & Jimmy, 2010). Chlorination proves ineffective for some highly resistant waterborne pathogens, and also has a tendency to form carcinogenic disinfection by-products (DBP) when chlorine is added to water. One of the nanomaterials that has attracted research interest in the recent years as antibacterial agent is zinc oxide. Zinc oxide is commonly added in sunscreens, coatings and paints to absorb UV light and plays a vital role in various industries such as rubber, pharmaceuticals, and food (Kim et al., 2017). ZnO is incorporated as antimicrobial into textiles, surfaces coatings, cosmetics, and cellulose fibers to inhibit microbial growth (Onyszko et al., 2022). However, ZnO has found enhanced applications in the nanoscale. Figure 8 shows the antimicrobial activity of the ZnO nanoparticles. This mechanism involves the release of oxygen species from the surface of ZnO which cause fatal damage to microorganisms. ROS are known to cause oxidative stress by damaging DNA, cell membranes and cellular proteins. The rupture of the cell wall is due to the surface activity of ZnO which causes the decomposition of the cell wall and subsequently the cell membrane, the leakage of cell contents, and eventually cell death (Yu et al., 2014).

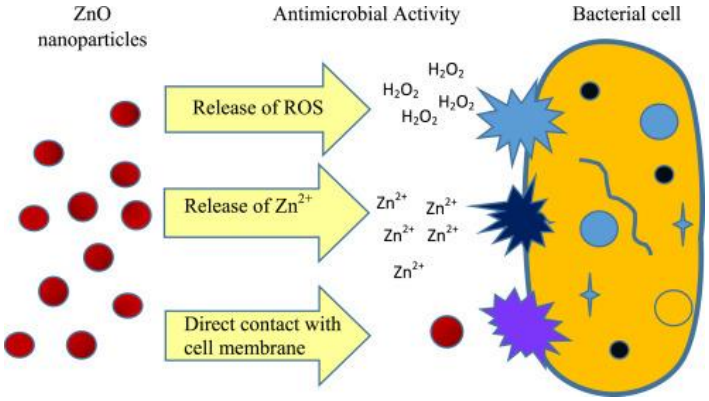

Figure 8: Disinfection mechanisms of ZnO nanostructure (Dimapilis, Hsu, Mendoza, & Lu, 2018)

5. Conclusions

Zinc oxide nano-structures have been revealed to be a possible prospect as photo-catalyst for solar driven photo-degradation procedure of consistent natural contaminants. This is credited to its low production cost, non-toxic and capacity to absorb bigger portion of solar sphere contrasted to TiO_2. Coming from the instances of assembly techniques provided in previous segments, it may find that zinc oxide qualities such as size 0-D, 1-D, 2-D and 3-D anatomy as well as bit dimension had an effect on through its assembly approaches. Among the construction methods, solution-based techniques are beneficial because of its own capability to supply a really good platform to handle development operations of ZnO nano-structures. There are numerous methods that have been tried to enrich the photo-response of zinc oxide nano-structures. Bandgap energy is mentioned to take a vital element in establishing the photoactivity of zinc oxide. It could be confirmed that procedures like steel/non-metal doping, ZnO combining with various other semiconductors, the coupling of nano-carbon can enhance ZnO as a photo-catalyst in photo-degradation application. These techniques will certainly improve their performance through changing the bandgap energy, subduing the recombination price of electron-hole sets, increasing fee separation effectiveness, enhancing manufacturing rate of hydroxyl radicals, generating smaller fragment size along with high specific surface place, and making it possible for better scattering in medium. It was experimentally confirmed that the ZnO nanoparticles along with the best details area showed the best elimination ratio in the direction of the degeneration of dyes. ZnO use in water and wastewater disinfection shows promise. It has the benefits of addressing the limitations of conventional water treatment methods, foremost of which is DBP formation. However, many areas need to be explored to further enhance the performance of ZnO as antimicrobial agent.

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