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Highlight Review



Photocatalysts for water splitting developed by the present authors are reviewed. A NiO (0.2 wt %)/NaTaO₃:La (2%) photocatalyst with a 4.1-eV band gap showed high activity for water splitting into H₂ and O₂ with an apparent quantum yield of 56% at 270 nm. Many visible-light-driven photocatalysts have also been developed through band engineering by doping of metal cations, forming new valence bands with Bi_{6s}, Sn_{5s}, and Ag_{4d} orbitals, and by making solid solutions between ZnS with wide band gap and narrow band gap semiconductors. Overall water splitting under visible light irradiation has been achieved by construction of a Z-scheme photocatalysis system employing the visible-light-driven photocatalysts for H₂ and O₂ evolution, and the Fe³⁺/Fe²⁺ redox couple as an electron relay.

Letter







50 nm

1562 The Preparation of TiO₂ Nanoparticle Photocatalysts by a Flame Method and Their Photocatalytic Reactivity for the Degradation of 2-Propanol

Bernaurdshaw Neppolian, Hyun Seock Jie, Jae-Pyoung Ahn, Jong-Ku Park, and Masakazu Anpo

1564 Synthesis of Nickel Nanocrystallites with Hexagonal Flake-like Morphology from Nickel Dimethylglyoximate

Xiaomin Ni, Lifu Chen, Huagui Zheng, Dongen Zhang, Qingbiao Zhao, and Jimei Song

1566 Successive Phase Transitions in Crystalline State of Mesogenic Butyl 4-[2-(Perfluorooctyl)ethoxy]benzoate

> Minako Maeda, Motoi Nagasawa, Makoto Tachibana, Hitoshi Kawaji, Tooru Atake, Akifumi Iida, Tomoji Ozeki, and Kayako Hori

1568 Sensitized Photoluminescence of Eu³⁺ and Gd³⁺-Doped Y₃Al₅O₁₂ Phosphors Prepared via a Reverse Microemulsion Process

Chung-Hsin Lu and Chien-Hao Huang



Oil Phase

YAG: Eu

⁺ phosphors





SEM images of Fe–TiO₂ (left) and FeZn–TiO₂ bimetal incorporated (right) photocatalysts.



1572 Novel Layered Organic-Inorganic Networks Assembled From PbI₂ and N,N'-bis(3-pyridylmethyl)-1,4-biphenylenedimethyleneimine

> Ling-Yan Kong, Zheng-Hua Zhang, Taka-aki Okamura, Ming-Jian Fei, Wei-Yin Sun, and Norikazu Ueyama

1574 spheres by Varying Ratio of Phenol-Formaldehyde Resin to Mesoporous Silica Foams

1576 Mesostructure by Contact Plating

1578 Aligned ZnO Nanorods frameworks with different structures were obtained by reactions of PbI_2 with N,N'-bis(3pyridylmethyl)-1,4biphenylenedimethylenei mine (L) under different M/L ratios.

Two novel metal-organic





Yasushige Kuroda, Takae Okamoto, Toshinori Mori, and Yuzo Yoshikawa





Satoshi Hayashi and Hiro-o Hamaguchi

A magnetic ionic liquid, which responds strongly to a magnet, has been discovered.



1602 Colloidal Nanoparticles from Poly(*N*-isopropylacrylamide)-*graft*-DNA for Single Nucleotide Discrimination Based on Salt-induced Aggregation: Extension to Long Target DNA

Zhonglan Tang, Tohru Takarada, Yoshikuni

Sato, and Mizuo Maeda

Single nucleotide difference of 39-mer target DNA has been detected successfully by using colloidal nanoparticles formed from the copolymer. The nanoparticles aggregated rapidly in the presence of the full match DNA, while dispersed in the presence of the mismatch one.



Mismatch Full match





1622 Porous/Disk-dual Microelectrode: Preparation and Electrochemical Detection of Methanol Electrooxidation Product at Pt/C **Powder Electrocatalyst**



Kohshi Kashima, Minoru Umeda, Akifumi Yamada, and Isamu Uchida

Schematic illustration (a) and optical micrographs of porous/disk-dual microelectrode at the tip packed with (c) and without (b) Pt/C powder.



