



TiO₂-H₂O interactions by fast field cycling (FFC) NMR relaxometry

Alena Prusova (1), Claudio De Pasquale (2), Vittorio Loddo (3), and Leonardo Palmisano (3)

(1) Brno University of Technology, Institute of Applied Chemistry, Purkynova 118, Brno – Czech Republic, (2) Università degli Studi di Palermo, Dipartimento di Ingegneria e Tecnologie Agro-Forestali, v.le delle Scienze 13, edificio 4, 90128 Palermo – Italy, (3) “Schiavello-Grillone” Photocatalysis Group - Dipartimento di Ingegneria Chimica dei Processi e dei Materiali, Università degli Studi di Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, edificio 6, 90128 Palermo – Italy

Titanium dioxide is a very well known photocatalyst which is widely used for environmental remediation. The interactions between TiO₂ surface and organic contaminants are still poorly understood. Conceivably, water is an ubiquitous solvent and most of the TiO₂ research deals with H₂O. We have considered the possibility to apply FFC-NMR relaxometry for a deep understanding of the interactions between titanium dioxide surface and water molecules. Early results suggested the presence of different surface waters according to the chemical nature of the active sites present in the TiO₂ system.

Acknowledgements

A.P. gratefully acknowledges a bilateral Erasmus project between Brno University of Technology and University of Palermo which provided grant sustainment. This work was partially funded by Ce.R.T.A. s.c.r.l. (Centri Regionali per le Tecnologie Alimentari; <http://www.certa.it/default.asp>).