

## Photocatalytic degradation of methylene blue dye by F-doped Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanowires

Tariq R. Sobahi<sup>a,\*</sup>, M.S. Amin<sup>b,c</sup>, Reda M. Mohamed<sup>a,d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, King Abdulaziz University, PO Box 80203, 21589 Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, emails: tsohabi@gmail.com (T.R. Sobahi), redama123@yahoo.com (R.M. Mohamed) <sup>b</sup>Department of Basic Sciences and Technology, Community College, Taibah University, Saudi Arabia,

email: mohamedsamin@hotmail.com

<sup>c</sup>Chemistry Department, Faculty of Science, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt

<sup>d</sup>Advanced Materials Department, Central Metallurgical R&D Institute, CMRDI, PO Box 87, Helwan, Cairo, Egypt

Received 30 October 2016; Accepted 16 February 2017

## ABSTRACT

The hydrothermal method was used to prepare  $Co_3O_4$  with different shapes by varying concentration of NaOH from 3 to 12 M. Shape of  $Co_3O_4$  was found to be nanowire by using 9 M NaOH. Fluorine was doped into the surface of  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire by impregnation method. Doping of fluorine into the surface of  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire decreases bandgap of  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire from 2.49 to 2.32 eV as a result of the blocking of some pores of  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire. The surface area of undoped  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire is higher than that of doped  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire. Doping of fluorine into surface of  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire enhances the photocatalytic performance of  $Co_3O_4$  nanowire toward degradation of methylene blue dye under visible light.

*Keywords:* Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>; Hydrothermal; Fluorine; Methylene blue dye

\* Corresponding author.