

Exploring the Remarkably High Photocatalytic Efficiency of Ultra-Thin Porous Graphitic Carbon Nitride Nanosheets

Zahra Kalantari Bolaghi, Cristina Rodriguez-Seco *, Aycan Yurtsever and Dongling Ma *

Centre Énergie Matériaux et Télécommunications, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS),
Varenes, QC J3X 1P7, Canada; zahra.kalantari@inrs.ca (Z.K.B.); aycan.yurtsever@inrs.ca (A.Y.)

* Correspondence: cristina.rodriguez.seco@inrs.ca (C.R.-S.); dongling.ma@inrs.ca (D.M.)

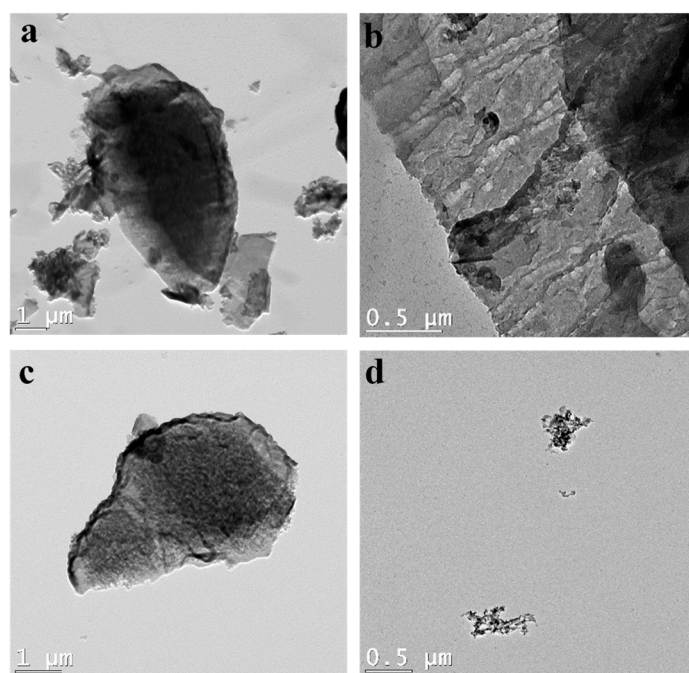


Figure S1. TEM images of thermally exfoliated g-C₃N₄ samples: (a and b) 550-CN and (c and d) 600-CN.

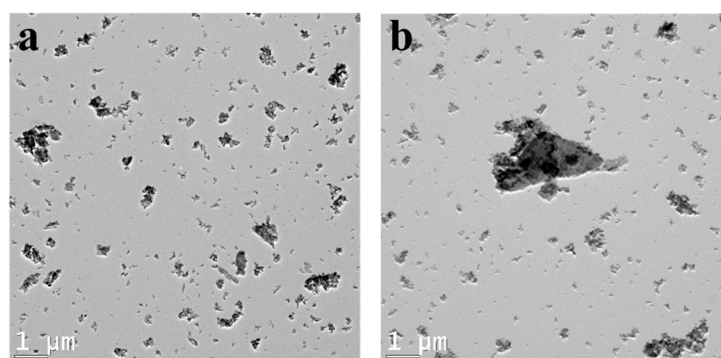


Figure S2. g-C₃N₄ sample ultrasonicated in acid media for 40 min (500-AUCN-40 min).

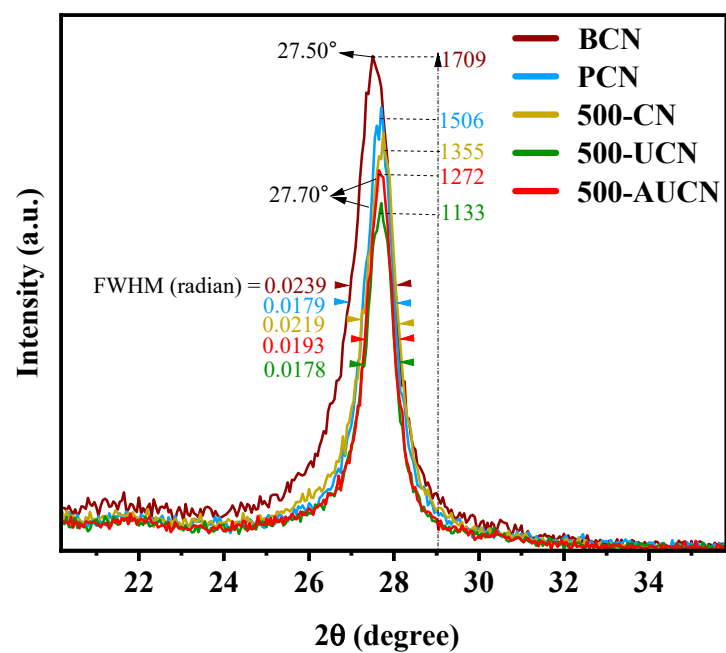


Figure S3. Enlarged view of (002) peak of XRD for g-C₃N₄ samples.

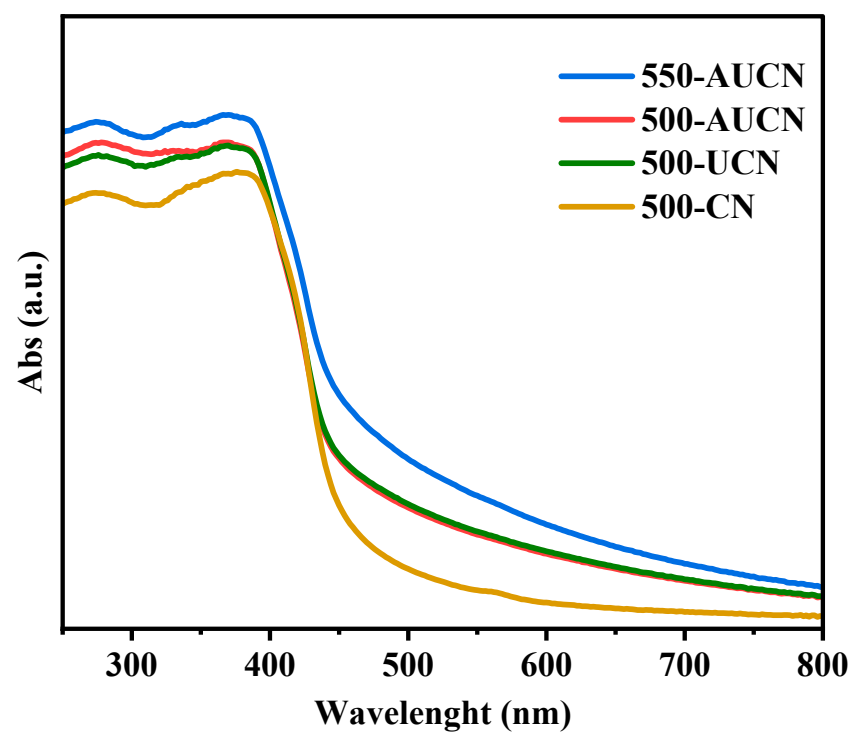


Figure S4. DRS spectra of g-C₃N₄ samples prepared under different conditions.

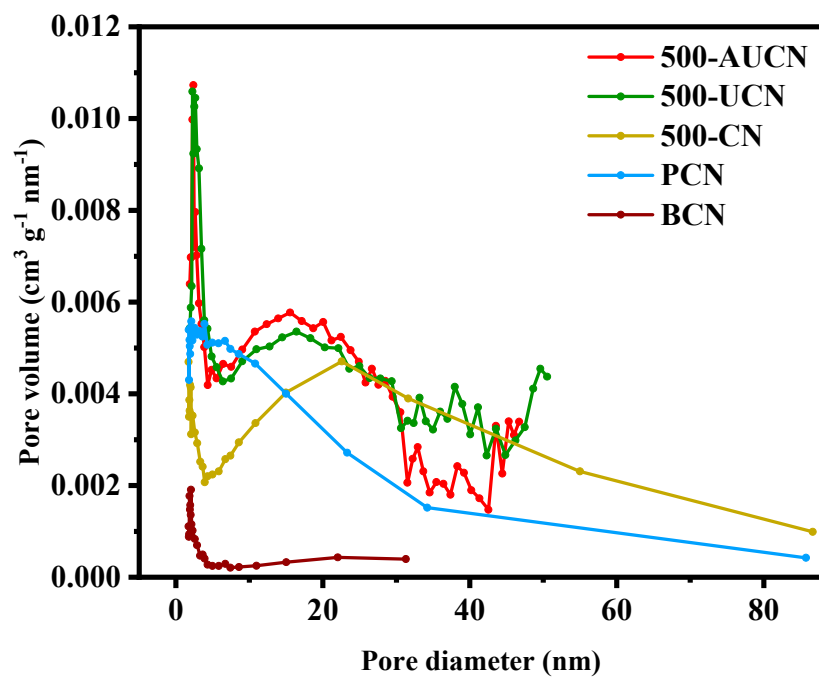


Figure S5. Pore size distribution curves of different g-C₃N₄ samples.

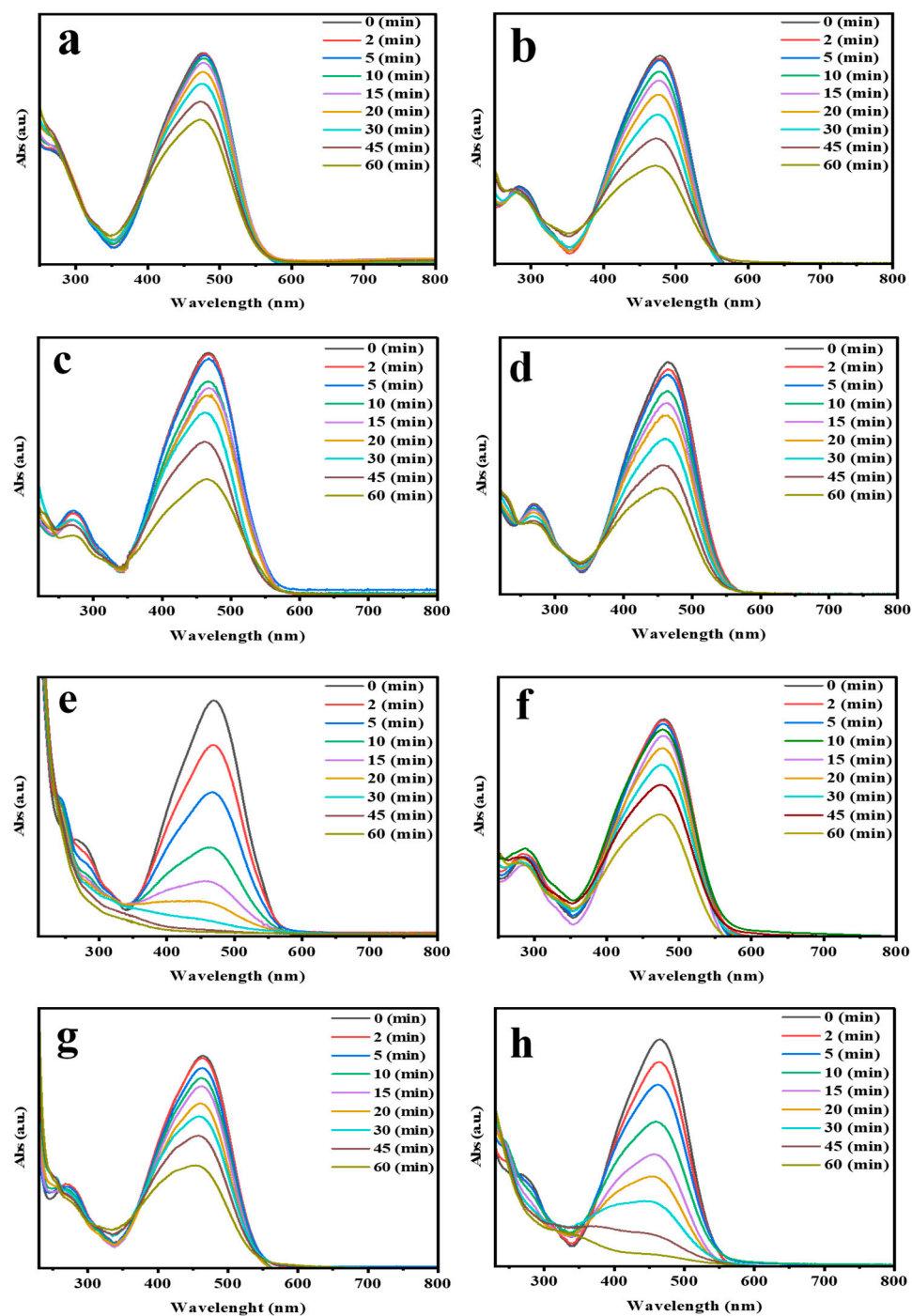


Figure S6. Visible light degradation spectra of MO using samples (a) 500-CN, (b) 500-UCN (c) 550-CN, (d) 550-UCN, (e) 550-AUCN, (f) 600-CN, (g) 600-UCN, and (h) 600-AUCN.

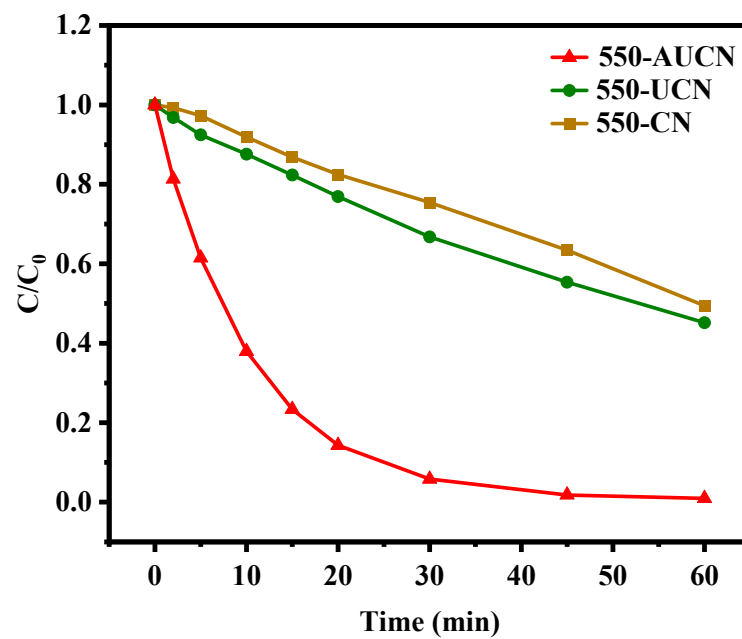


Figure S7. Photocatalytic degradation of MO under visible light using photocatalyst samples exfoliated at 550 °C.

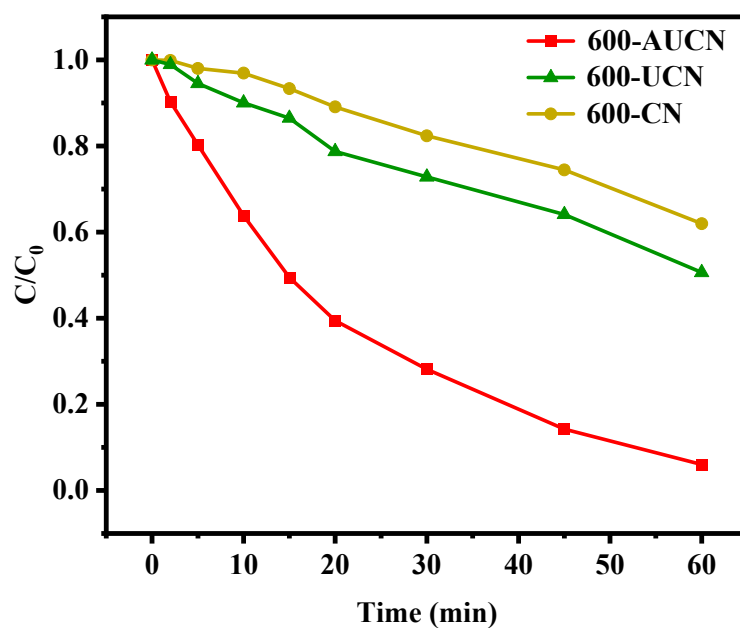


Figure S8. Photocatalytic degradation of MO under visible light, using photocatalyst samples exfoliated at 600 °C.

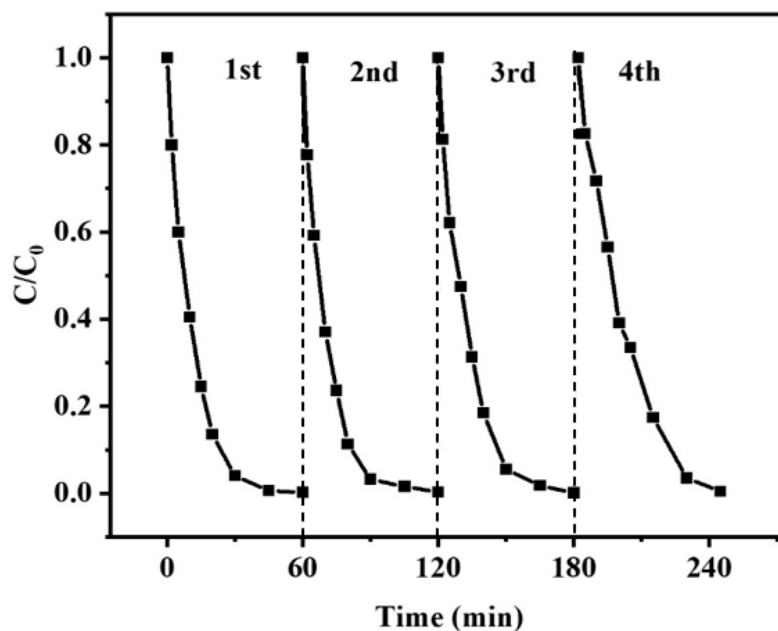


Figure S9. Photocatalytic stability of 500-AUCN in four successive cycling reactions under visible light irradiation.

Table S1. Normalized reaction rate (k) values for the MO photodegradation reaction in the presence of photocatalytic samples exfoliated at 550 °C and 600 °C.

Sample	k ($10^{-3} \text{ min}^{-1} \text{ mg}^{-1}$)
550-AUCN	8.0
600-AUCN	4.5
550-UCN	1.3
600-UCN	1.0
550-CN	1.1
600-CN	0.7

Table S2. Performance of C_3N_4 -based samples for degradation of MO under visible light irradiation in recently published literatures.

Refer-ences	Photocatalyst	Mass (mg)	Vol-ume (mL)	MO con-centration (mg L^{-1})	Light source	k value ($10^{-3} \text{ min}^{-1} \text{ mg}^{-1}$)
[1]	Porous Nanosheet	40	80	5	> 420 nm 300 W Xenon lamp	1.95
[2]	Porous Nanosheet	25	50	5	> 420 nm 500 W Xenon lamp	0.31
[3]	PCZ QDs/g- C_3N_4	10	25	10	> 420 nm 300 W Xenon lamp	2.10
[4]	$\text{V}_2\text{O}_5/\text{P-g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	50	50	10	> 420 nm 500 W Xenon lamp	0.43
[5]	$\text{Cu/ZnO-g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	50	100	10	Visible light, Mercury lamp	2.80
[6]	$\text{Ag/g-C}_3\text{N}_4$	25	100	10	> 420 nm 300 W Xenon lamp	1.00

[7]	Na-doped g-C ₃ N ₄	20	50	10	> 420 nm 500 W Xenon lamp	1.30
[8]	g-C ₃ N ₄ /Ag/P ₃ HT	60	30	10	> 420 nm 100 W LED lamp	0.18
[9]	CNS-TiO ₂ /g-C ₃ N ₄ ^a	20	50	20	> 420 nm 300 W Xenon lamp	3.45
[10]	NG@g-C ₃ N ₄ ^b	60	100	10	Visible light	0.45
[11]	MoS ₂ /Fe ₃ O ₄ /g-C ₃ N ₄ ^c	40	20	10	Visible light, 60 W LED lamp	6.57
This work	Ultrathin Porous Nanosheet	10	25	10	Visible light 300 W Xenon lamp	11.70

^a carbon–nitrogen–sulfur co-doped TiO₂/g-C₃N₄, ^b N-doped graphene covalently grafted with g-C₃N₄, ^c quantum dots of graphitic carbon nitride (g-C₃N₄) and Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles were decorated on MoS₂ nan.

References

- Long, B.; Yan, G.; He, H.; Meng, S. Porous and Few-Layer Carbon Nitride Nanosheets via Surface Steam Etching for Enhanced Photodegradation Activity. *ACS Appl. Nano Mater.* **2022**, *5*, 7798–7810, doi:10.1021/acsnm.2c00820.
- Xu, R.; Li, J.; Sui, G.; Zhuang, Y.; Guo, D.; Luo, Z.; Liang, S.; Yao, H.; Wang, C.; Chen, S. Constructing Supramolecular Self-Assembled Porous g-C₃N₄ Nanosheets Containing Thiophene-Groups for Excellent Photocatalytic Performance under Visible Light. *Applied Surface Science* **2022**, *578*, 152064, doi:10.1016/j.apsusc.2021.152064.
- Zhang, Q.; Yang, F.; Zhou, S.; Bao, N.; Xu, Z.; Chaker, M.; Ma, D. Broadband Photocatalysts Enabled by 0D/2D Heterojunctions of near-Infrared Quantum Dots/Graphitic Carbon Nitride Nanosheets. *Applied Catalysis B: Environmental* **2020**, *270*, 118879, doi:10.1016/j.apcatb.2020.118879.
- Zhang, X.; Jia, X.; Duan, P.; Xia, R.; Zhang, N.; Cheng, B.; Wang, Z.; Zhang, Y. V₂O₅/P-g-C₃N₄ Z-Scheme Enhanced Heterogeneous Photocatalytic Removal of Methyl Orange from Water under Visible Light Irradiation. *Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects* **2021**, *608*, 125580, doi:10.1016/j.colsurfa.2020.125580.
- Kampalapura Swamy, C.; Hezam, A.; Mavinakere Ramesh, A.; Habbanakuppe Ramakrishnegowda, D.; K. Purushothama, D.; Krishnegowda, J.; Kanchugarakoppal S., R.; Shivanna, S. Microwave Hydrothermal Synthesis of Copper Induced ZnO/g-C₃N₄ Heterostructure with Efficient Photocatalytic Degradation through S-Scheme Mechanism. *Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology A: Chemistry* **2021**, *418*, 113394, doi:10.1016/j.jphotochem.2021.113394.
- Liu, R.; Yang, W.; He, G.; Zheng, W.; Li, M.; Tao, W.; Tian, M. Ag-Modified g-C₃N₄ Prepared by a One-Step Calcination Method for Enhanced Catalytic Efficiency and Stability. *ACS Omega* **2020**, *5*, 19615–19624, doi:10.1021/acsomega.0c02161.
- Dou, Q.; Hou, J.; Hussain, A.; Zhang, G.; Zhang, Y.; Luo, M.; Wang, X.; Cao, C. One-Pot Synthesis of Sodium-Doped Willow-Shaped Graphitic Carbon Nitride for Improved Photocatalytic Activity under Visible-Light Irradiation. *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* **2022**, *624*, 79–87, doi:10.1016/j.jcis.2022.05.085.
- Liu, F.; Nguyen, T.-P.; Wang, Q.; Massuyeau, F.; Dan, Y.; Jiang, L. Construction of Z-Scheme g-C₃N₄/Ag/P₃HT Heterojunction for Enhanced Visible-Light Photocatalytic Degradation of Tetracycline (TC) and Methyl Orange (MO). *Applied Surface Science* **2019**, *496*, 143653, doi:10.1016/j.apsusc.2019.143653.
- Huang, Z.; Jia, S.; Wei, J.; Shao, Z. A Visible Light Active, Carbon–Nitrogen–Sulfur Co-Doped TiO₂/g-C₃N₄ Z-Scheme Heterojunction as an Effective Photocatalyst to Remove Dye Pollutants. *RSC Advances* **2021**, *11*, 16747–16754, doi:10.1039/D1RA01890F.
- Santha kumar, K.; Vellaichamy, B.; Paulmony, T. Visible Light Active Metal-Free Photocatalysis: N-Doped Graphene Covalently Grafted with g-C₃N₄ for Highly Robust Degradation of Methyl Orange. *Solid State Sciences* **2019**, *94*, 99–105, doi:10.1016/j.solidstatesciences.2019.06.003.
- G-C₃N₄ Quantum Dot Decorated MoS₂/Fe₃O₄ as a Novel Recoverable Catalyst for Photodegradation of Organic Pollutant under Visible Light | Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Electronics Available online: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10854-021-06790-w> (accessed on 29 November 2023).