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## Pt supported on CeTi-modified hexagonal mesoporous silica as photocatalysts for degradation of phenols in water

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# **Outline of the talk**

- Introduction
- Synthesis of the materials
- Characterisation of the materials
- Photocatalytic activity in the degradation of organic compounds from water

## Introduction

Phenolic compounds



- Dispersion of TiO<sub>2</sub> on a support with high surface area ions can increase photocatalytic performances due to extended light absorption range and a better charge separation.
- Cerium is an interesting candidate to  $TiO_2$  doping due to the same valence in the stable oxide and having four valence electrons both.
- The thermal and mechanical stability of Ce/TiO<sub>2</sub> photocatalysts was not good enough for practical applications.
- In order to address these problems, one approach is to disperse  $TiO_2$  on the high surface area supports such as mesoporous silica and dopped it with different metals (e.g. Pt, Ce).
- Photocatalytic degradation of phenol and substituted phenols in wastewater has been widely investigated, the most used process being based on  $TiO_2/UV$ .



•The obtained solids were further used as supports for impregnation, by incipient wetness technique, with an aqueous solution of platinum ( $H_2PtCl_6$ ) and cerium  $Ce(NO_3)_3$  in order to prepare catalysts with 0.25, 0.5, and 1% Pt, respectively, 1%  $CeO_2$ .

### Morphology and structure of the catalysts



## **Structure of the catalyst components**



M. Ciobanu, G. Petcu, E.M. Anghel, F. Papa, N.G.Apostol, D.C. Culita, I. Atkinson, S. Todorova, M. Shopska, A. Naydenov, R. Velinova, V. Parvulescu, Applied Catalysis A: General, 2021, 619, 118123

Raman shift (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

## **Surface composition**



## **Optical properties**



the strong peak at 230 nm indicates the proof the framework titanium species

the broad absorption band for samples with CeO<sub>2</sub> can be attributed to  $O^{2-} \rightarrow Ce^{4+}$  charge transfer (277 nm) and to inter-band transitions (347 nm)

significant effect on adsorption can be observed for samples with 1% Pt which can be attributed to the remarkable effect of Pt under its strong interaction with titanium and cerium oxides dispersed on the support

#### we have a high interface and stronger interaction between ceria and titania

Band gap values	SB	TSB	CTSB	PTSB	CPTSB	PCTSB
	3.95	3.87	2.71	3.22	2.46	2.31

## **HO** radicals from the surface by fluorescence technique



#### **Photocatalytic degradation of phenols from water**



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#### **Proposed mechanism**



## Conclusions

•New catalysts were obtained with activity in photocatalytic oxidation of organic compounds

•XRD,  $N_2$  adsorption-desorption, SEM and TEM results confirm preservation of mesoporous ordered structure, specially after the introduction of titanium and ceria

• The co-solvent changed the morphology and some characteristics of SBA-15 porous structure

•The best results in photocalalytic degradation of phenol were obtained for CTSB and PTSB samples

•These catalytic tests shown a competition between morphology, dispersion of Ti and Ce on the materials surface and a strong interaction between Ce and Ti

•Dispersion of  $TiO_2$  on mesoporous silica and its doping with Ce or Pt is a good solution to obtain very active photocatalysts for degradation of phenols from water.



# **Thank you for your attention!**





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