

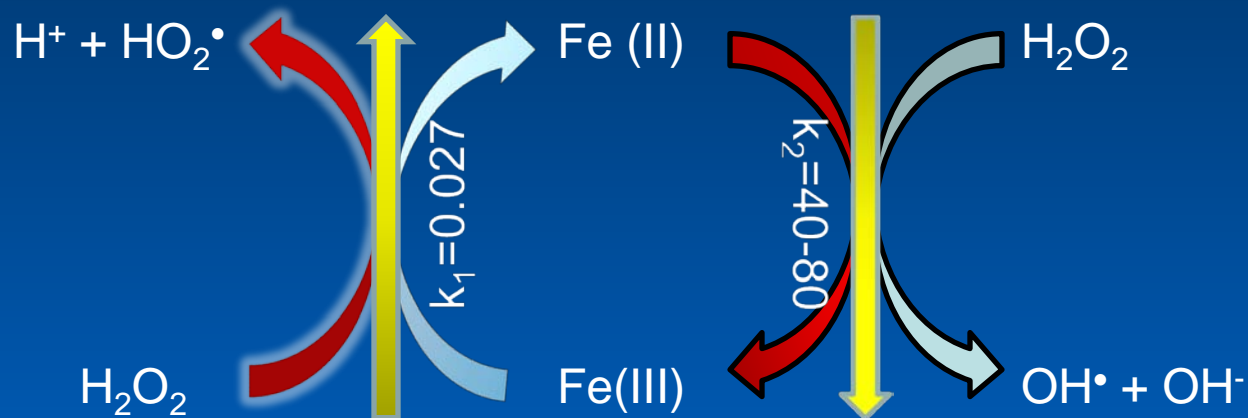
# Heterogeneous photo-Fenton system for solar degradation of organic pollutants

Félicien Mazille, César Pulgarin



Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

# Fenton chemistry



Light enhance Fenton rates  
 via photo-induced LMCT



And by iron oxide bandgap illumination  
 In the case of heterogeneous photo-Fenton

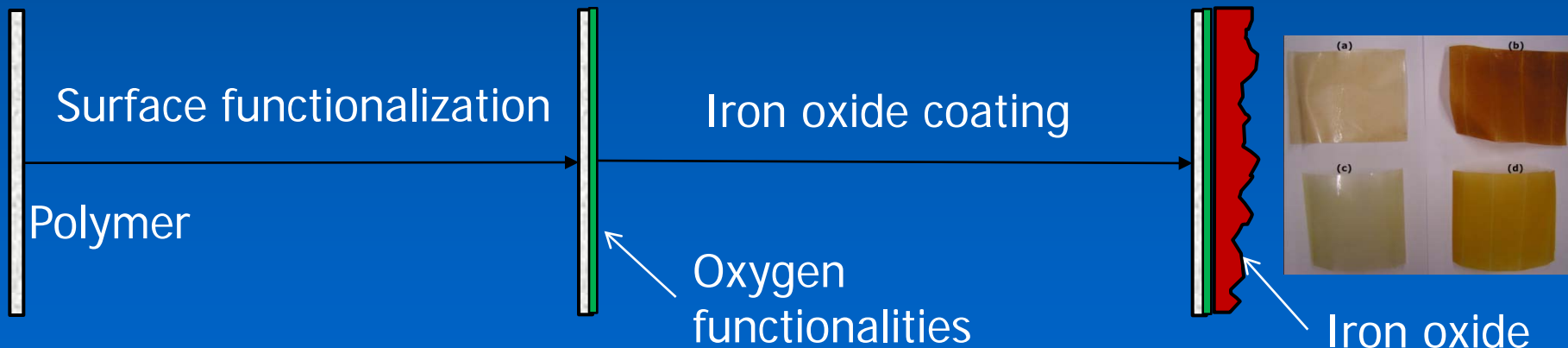


# Why Heterogeneous photo-Fenton processes could be advantageous ?

- ➔ Process operational at a broad pH range, no initial and final pH adjustment required.
- ➔ Dissolve iron concentration is minimised, a separation of catalyst avoidable.

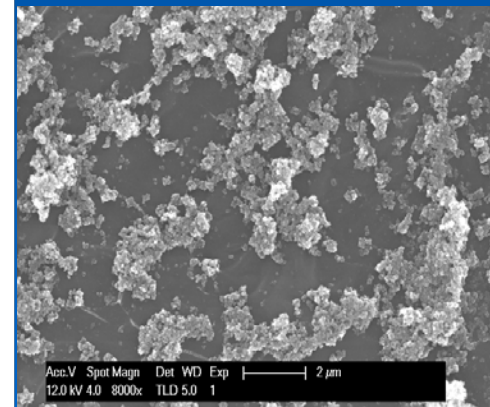
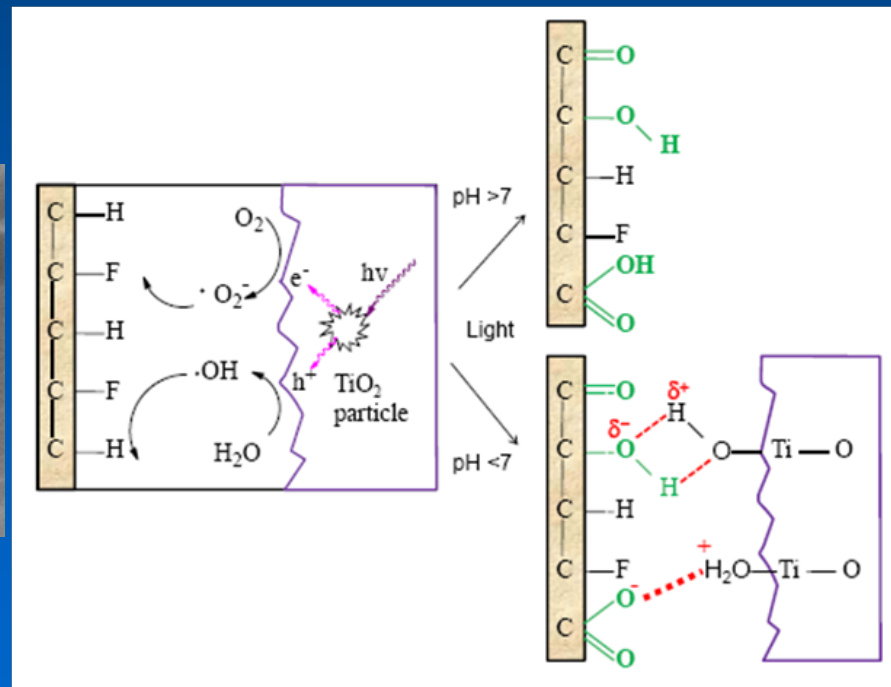
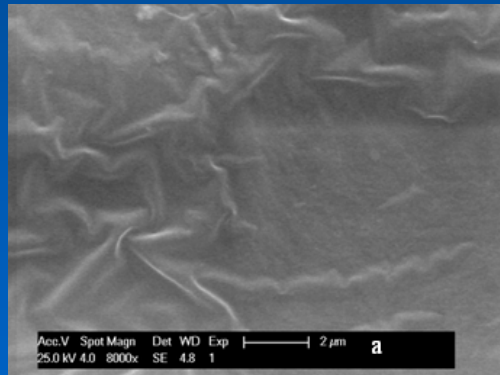
# Innovative preparation strategy

- ➔ Transparent polymer films substrate (PVF, PE, PET)
- ➔ Application of surface functionalization :  $\text{TiO}_2$  photocatalysis
- ➔ Iron oxide coating (Forced hydrolysis  $\text{FeCl}_3$ )

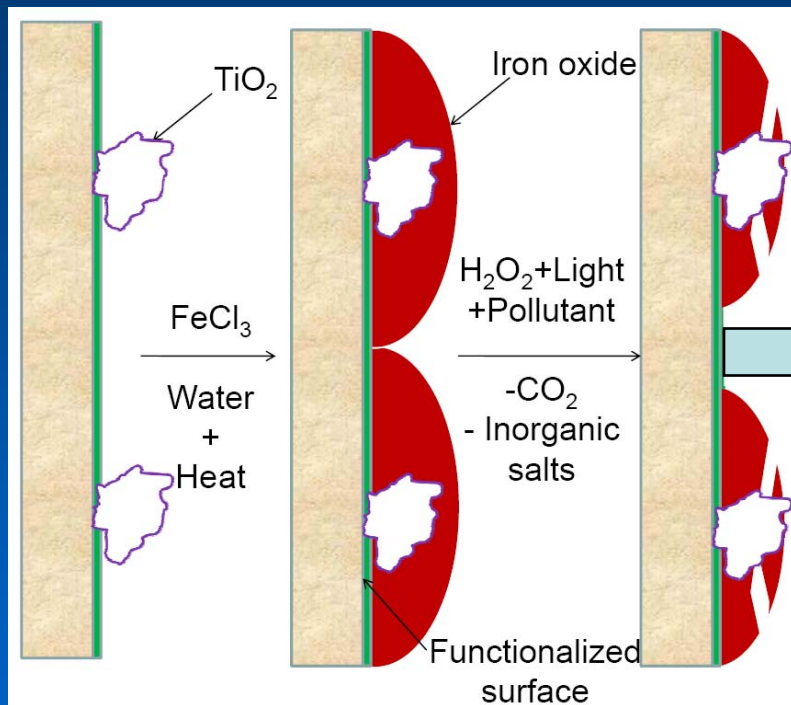


- ➔ **Characterization methods:** X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS), UV-visible spectrophotometry, scanning electron microscopy (SEM)

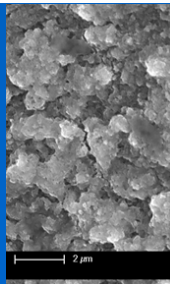
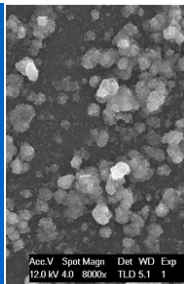
# TiO<sub>2</sub> photocatalytic surface functionalization-deposition method (PSFD)



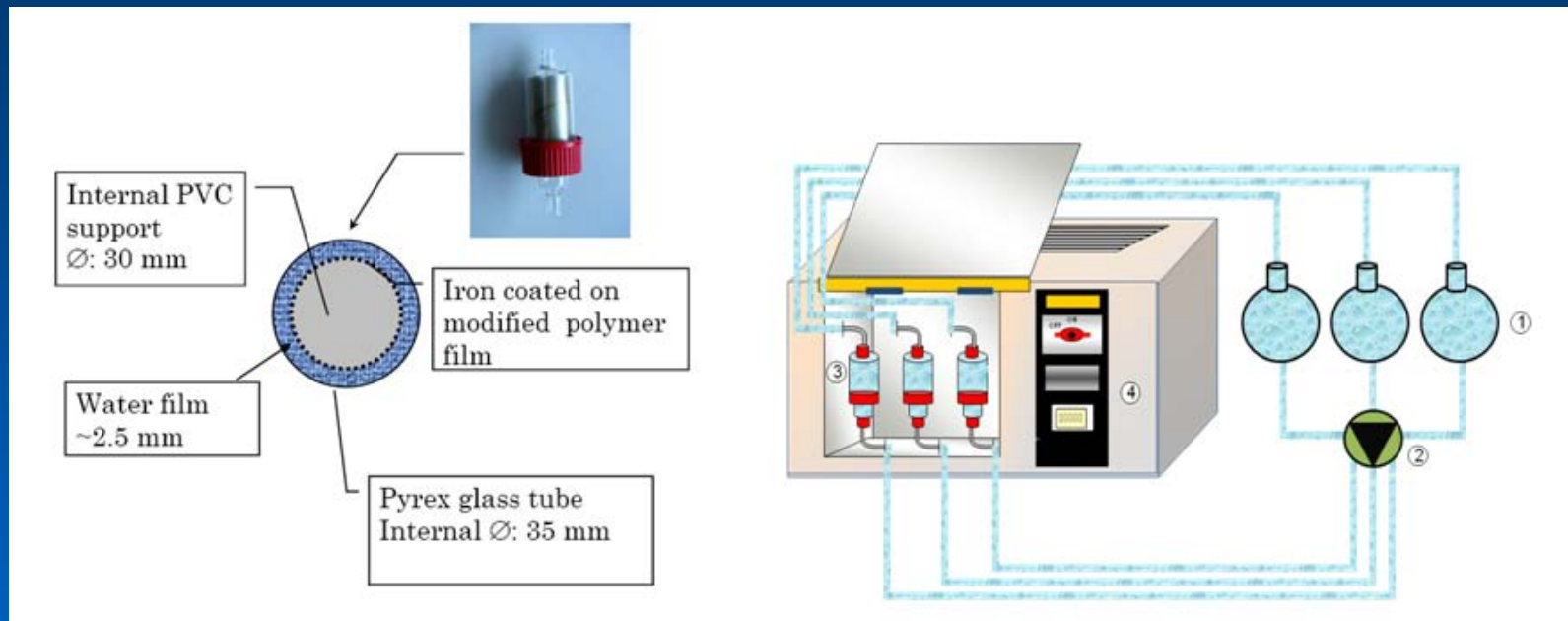
# Iron oxide coating and activation



Iron and Titanium oxide coated functionalized polymer films (**ICP**) showing synergistic activity



# Laboratory scale Set up



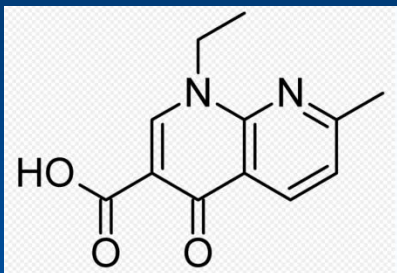
$$V_{\text{total}} = 110\text{ml}; V_{\text{irradiated}} = 25\text{mL}$$

$$A_{\text{photocatalyst}} = 75\text{cm}^2$$

Natural pH

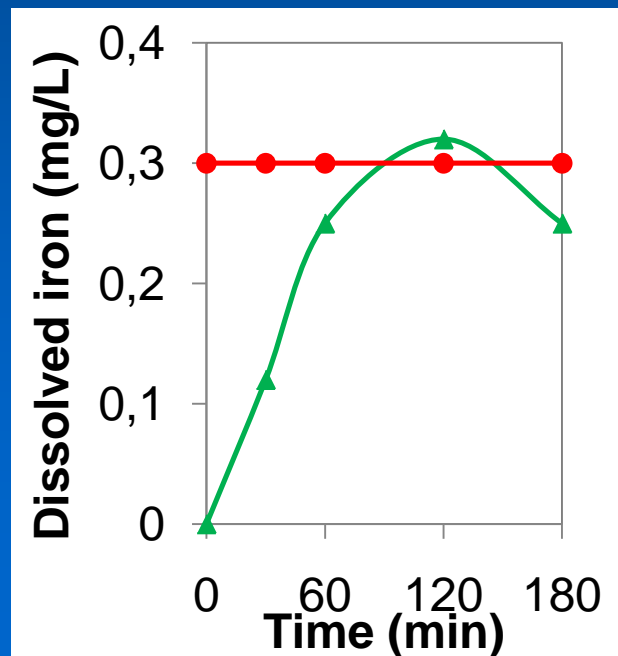
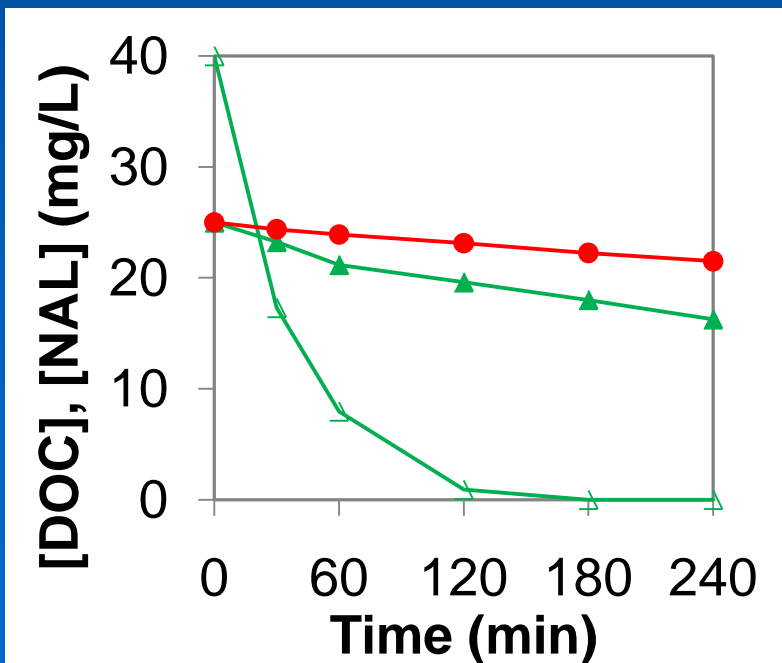
Solar simulation

# Nalidixic acid degradation Laboratory scale



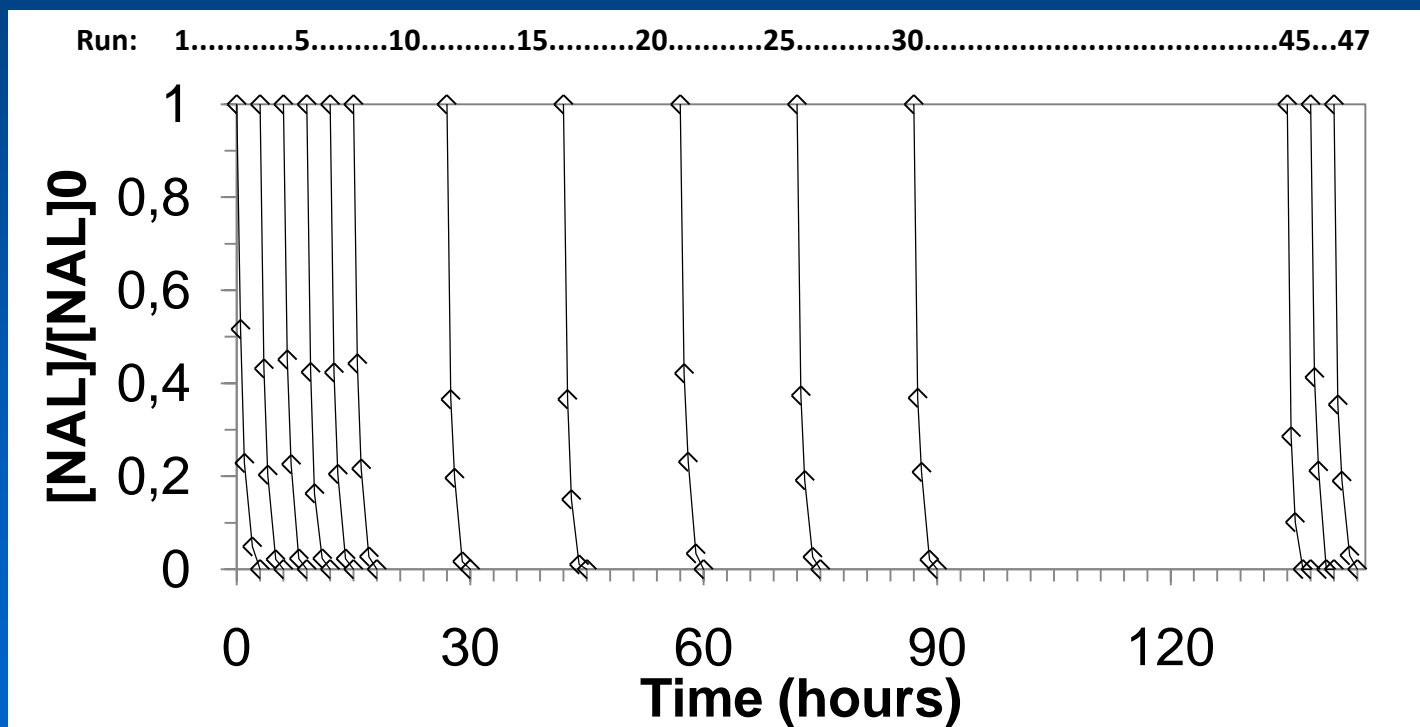
Nalidixic acid (NAL)

- initial “natural” pH 6
- H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> approx. 100mg/l
- Average over 5 runs exp. error ≈ 3%
- **Homogeneous contribution**

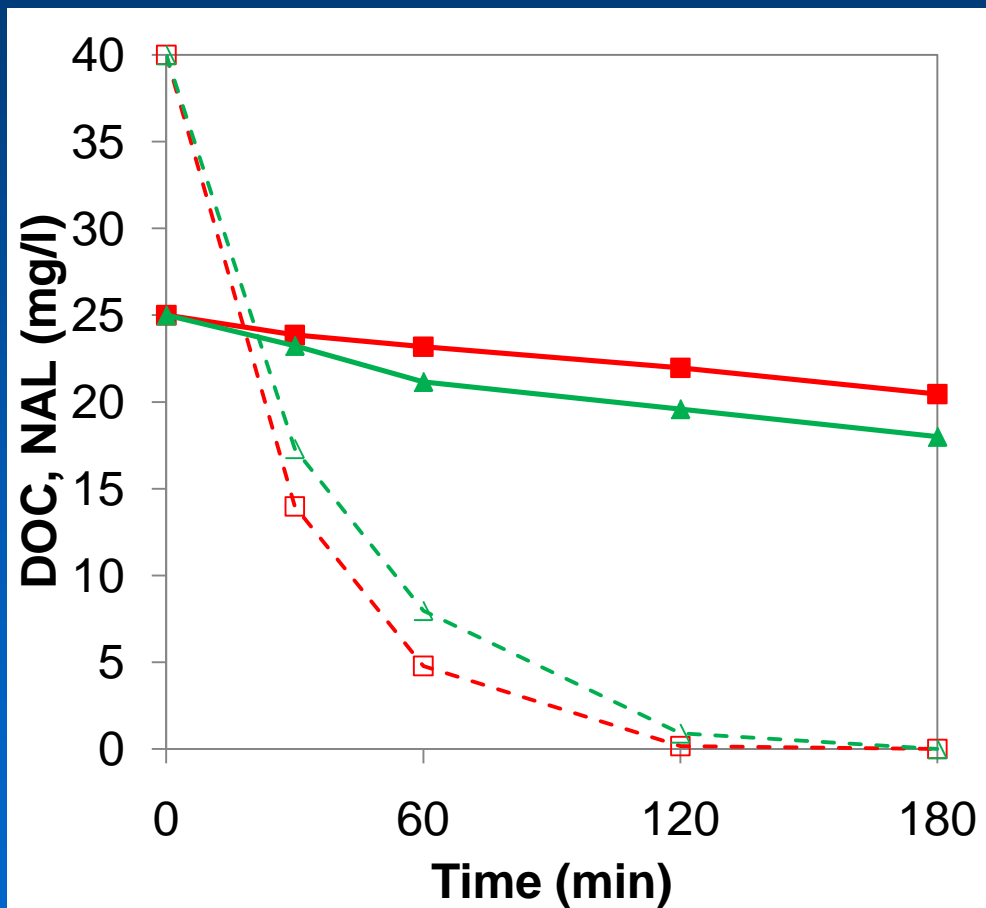




# Nalidixic acid degradation : long-term stability

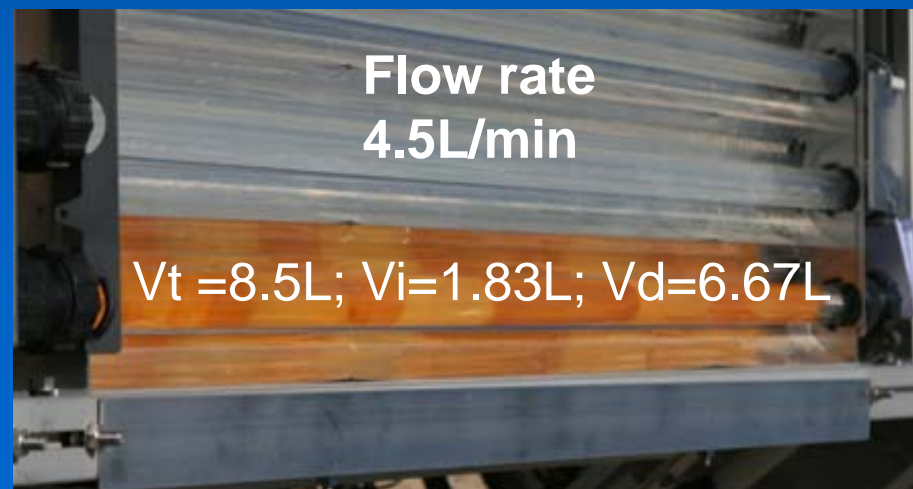
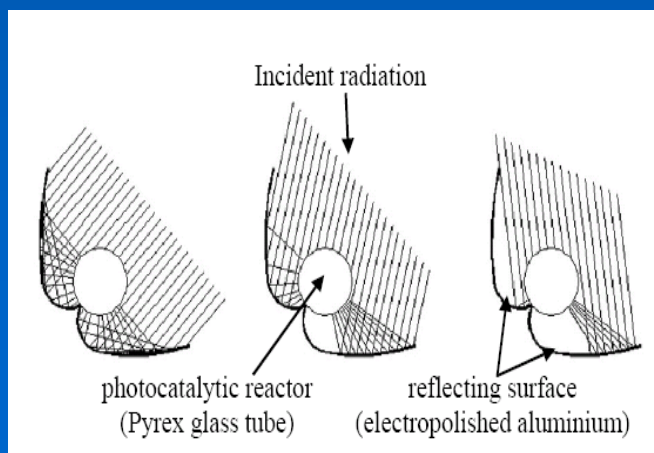
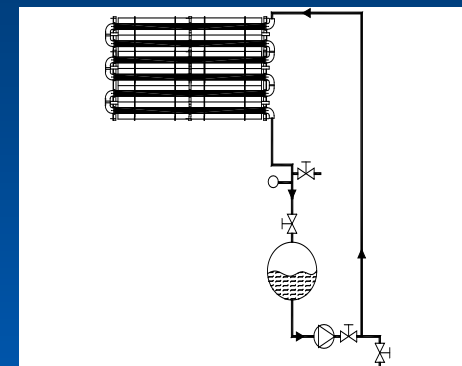
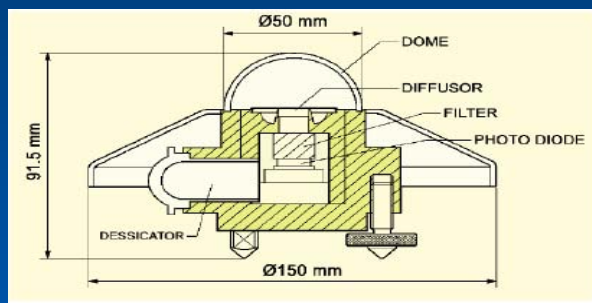


# Nalidixic acid degradation: salt content

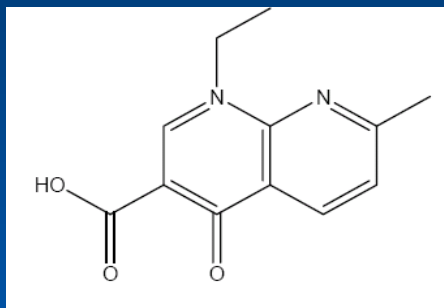


- 25 ml photoreactor, total volume 110 mL
- Nalidixic acid (NAL) 40 mg/L, initial pH 6
- **Presence** and **absence** of NaCl 5g/L
- Solar simulator
- H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> approx. 100mg/l
- Average over 5 runs  
Exp. error ≈ 3%

# Pilot scale photo-reactor



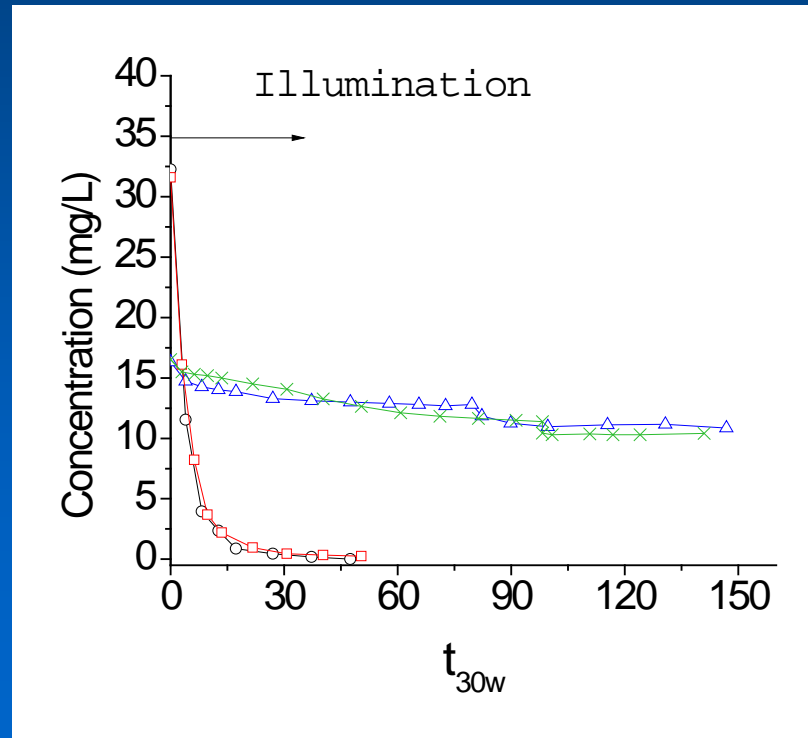
# Nalidixic acid degradation: scale up



$[H_2O_2] = 100 \text{ mg/L}$

Reaction pH :7

Dissolved iron concentration  
 $< 0.2 \text{ mg/L}$



# Conclusions

- A innovative way to prepare supported photocatalysts on polymer films was proposed ( $\text{TiO}_2$  PSFD+  $\text{FeCl}_3$  hydrolysis)
- Photocalyst films were efficient to degrade nalidixic acid at controlled neutral pH and low iron leaching was observed
- The presence of salt was not detrimental for the process
- The materials showed good long term stability (>150 hour)
- The application of the new material to pilot scale solar photo-reactor was successful.

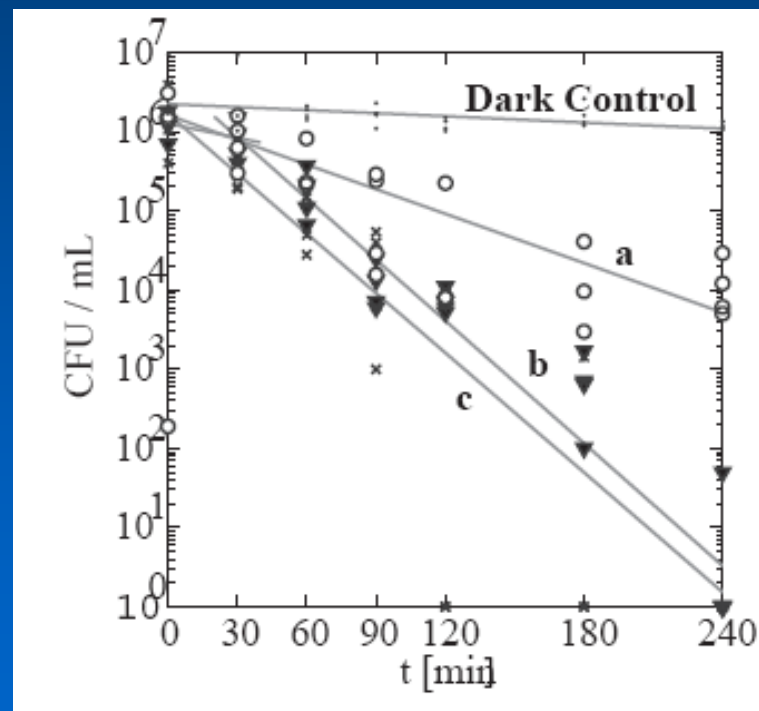
# Perspectives

## *E. Coli* inactivation in PET bottle reactors

	Photocatalyst	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (mM)	k <sub>obs</sub> (min <sup>-1</sup> )
a	Light only	-	0.024 ± 0.004
b	Fe <sup>3+</sup> (0.6 mg/L)	0.3	0.053 ± 0.008
c	PET <sub>b</sub> TiO <sub>2</sub> -PC-Fe-oxide	0.3	0.060 ± 0.004



- initial “natural” pH 6
- *E. Coli* K12, 10<sup>6</sup> CFU/mL



# Peer review articles

**M. Lapertot, S. Ebrahimi, I. Oller, M. I. Maldonado, W. Gernjak, S. Malato, C. Pulgarin.**

“Evaluating Microtox as a tool for biodegradability assessment of partially treated solutions of pesticides using  $\text{Fe}^{+3}$  and  $\text{TiO}_2$  solar photoassisted processes”

Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety, 69 (2008), 546-556

**R. Mosteo, D. Gummy, C. Pulgarin**

“Coupled Photo-Fenton - biological system: Effect of the Fenton parameters such as residual  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and pH on the efficiency of biological process”

Water Science and Technology, 58 (2008) 1679-1685.

**F. Mazille, T. Schoettl, C. Pulgarin,**

“Synergistic effect of  $\text{TiO}_2$  and iron oxide supported on fluorocarbon films. Part 1: Effect of preparation parameters on photocatalytic degradation of organic pollutant at neutral pH”

Applied Catalysis B : Environmental 89 (2009) 635-644.

**F. Mazille, A. Lopez, C. Pulgarin**

“Synergistic effect of  $\text{TiO}_2$  and iron oxide supported on fluorocarbon films. Part 2: Long term stability and influence of reaction parameters on photoactivated degradation of pollutants”

Applied Catalysis B : Environmental 90 (2009) 321-329.

**A. Moncayo-Lasso, J. Sanabria, C. Pulgarin, N. Benítez**

“Simultaneous *E. coli* Inactivation and NOM Degradation in River Water via Photo-Fenton Process at Natural pH in Solar CPC Reactor. A New Way for Enhancing Solar Disinfection of Natural Water”

Chemosphere 77 (2009) 296-300.

# Peer review articles

**F. Mazille, T. Schoettl, A. Lopez, C. Pulgarin.**

“Physico-chemical properties and photo-reactivity relationship for *para-substituted* phenols in photo-assisted Fenton system”

Journal of photochemistry and photobiology A: Chemical (2010) In press.

**F. Mazille, T. Schoettl, N. Klammerth, S. Malato, C. Pulgarin.**

“Field solar degradation of pesticides and emerging water contaminants mediated by polymer films containing titanium and iron oxide with synergistic heterogeneous photocatalytic activity at neutral pH.”

Submitted in Water Research

**F. Mazille, A. Moncayo, D. Spuhler, A. Serra, J. Peral, N.L Benítez, C. Pulgarin.**

“Comparative evaluation of polymer surface functionalization techniques before iron oxide deposition. Activity of the iron oxide-coated polymer films in the photo-assisted degradation of organic pollutants and inactivation of bacteria.”

Submitted in Journal of photochemistry and photobiology A: Chemical

**L. F. Gonzalez-Bahamon, F. Mazille, N. Benitez, C. Pulgarin.**

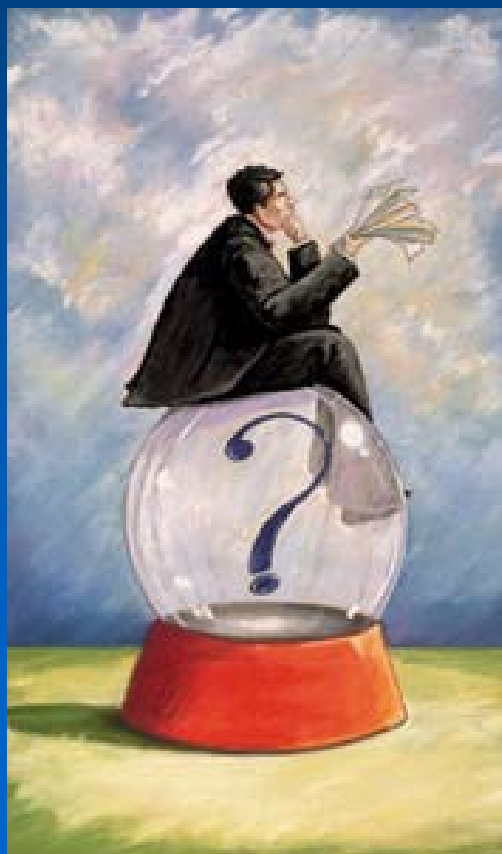
“Transparent iron coated polymers prepared by “green chemistry” for the photo-assisted degradation of organic pollutants”  
In preparation



# Acknowledgment

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# Questions?



# Synergistic action

