

## Active role of C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>, and CQD for photocatalytic water purification, an overview

Wilfried Wunderlich

*Department of Material Science, Faculty of Engineering, Tokai University, Japan.*

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### Abstract

Amongst different living organisms studied as potential candidates for the green synthesis of copper nanoparticles, algal biomass is presented as a novel and easy-to-handle method. However, the role of specific biomolecules and their contribution as reductant and capping agents has not yet been described. This contribution reports a green synthesis method to obtain copper oxide nanoparticles (CuO-NPs) using separated protein fractions from an aqueous extract of brown algae *Macrocystis pyrifera* through size exclusion chromatography (HPLC-SEC). Proteins were detected by a UV/VIS diode array, time-based fraction collection was carried out, and each collected fraction was used to evaluate the synthesis of CuO-NPs. The characterization of CuO-NPs was evaluated by Dynamic Light Scattering (DLS), Z-potential, Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR), Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM) equipped with Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectroscopy (EDS) detector. Low Molecular Weight (LMW) and High Molecular Weight (HMW) protein fractions were able to synthesize spherical CuO-NPs. TEM images showed that the metallic core present in the observed samples ranged from 2 to 50 nm in diameter, with spherical nanostructures present in all containing protein samples. FTIR measurements showed functional groups from proteins having a pivotal role in the reduction and stabilization of the nanoparticles. The highly negative zeta potential average values from obtained nanoparticles suggest high stability, expanding the range of possible applications. This facile and novel protein-assisted method for the green synthesis of CuO-NPs may also provide a suitable tool to synthesize other nanoparticles that have different application areas.

### Biography:

Wilfried Wunderlich has completed his PhD in 1987 from Max-Planck Institute for Metal Research, Stuttgart and University of Stuttgart (Germany). He is full professor for material science

at Tokai University since 2006. He has published more than 140 papers in reputed journals and is serving as an experienced referee for several journals

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