

Trends And Recent Advances in Defective Nanocatalysts

Gitanjali Kashyap^{1*},

¹KIPS, SSPU, Chhattisgarh, India

*Corresponding Author E-mail: kashyapgitu216@gmail.com

Abstract-

Defective nanocatalysts are rapidly evolving, with many exciting advances and new applications emerging. The precise impact of defects on catalytic performance depends on the specific properties of the nanocatalyst and the nature of the catalytic reaction being studied here. The secondary data collection method has been followed to gather all relevant information that helps in analyzing the factors affecting the nanocatalysts. On the other hand, the use of it in industries has been explored in this study. Limitations of nanocatalysts highlight the importance of careful design, testing, and optimization of nanocatalysts for specific applications. More research is needed to overcome these limitations and to fully realize the potential of nanocatalysts in various industrial and environmental applications.

Keywords- Nanocatalyst, Reactor, Industrial Use, Limitation of Nanocatalysts, Advances in Defective

I. INTRODUCTION

Catalyst is a substance that increases the chemical reaction rate without being consumed in that reaction. Nanocatalysts consist of nanoparticles that help in encouraging the speed of chemical reactions which have a design of higher surface area for more efficient interaction ^[1]. The use of nanotechnology has increased the performance of catalysts and industrial use has increased due to that. It has been found that defects have an important role in the nanocatalyst as they can make more unsaturated coordination sites in catalysts which benefited chemical reactions by allowing more absorption of molecules ^[5]. In this study, all the important topics have been discussed in brief. Along with this, the importance of catalysts in industries has been explained in an effective manner. Through the secondary data collection method, all the relevant information has been collected that also describes the limitation of nanocatalysts.

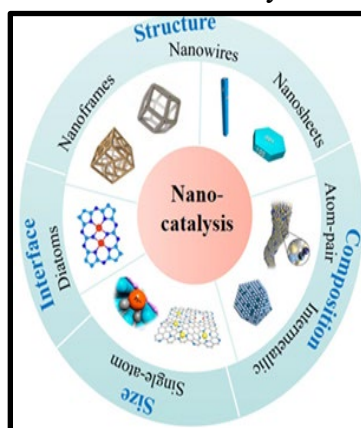


Figure 1: All the factors affecting the performance of nanocatalysts

II. OBJECTIVES

- To evaluate the role of nanotechnology in catalysts
- To discover the role of defects in the nanocatalyst
- To understand the importance of catalysts in industries
- To rectify the trends and recent advances in defective nanocatalysts
- To analyse the factors that affect nanocatalysts
- To explain the limitations of the nanocatalyst

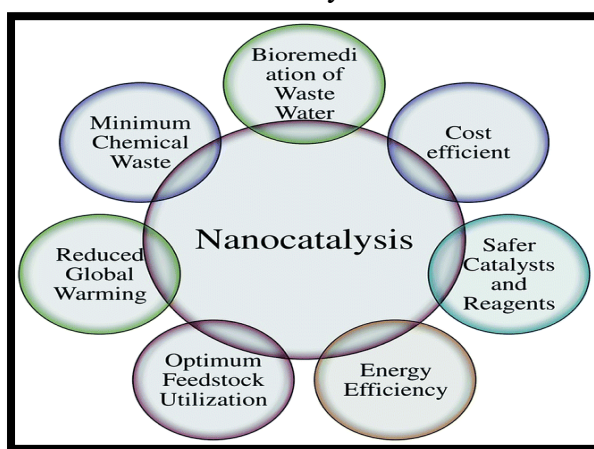


Figure 2: Nanocatalysis

III. METHODOLOGY

Catalyst is an important element in chemical reactions where nanotechnology has proved to have a strong contribution. The use of nanocatalysts has helped in managing the reaction in a more advanced and effective manner as it has a high volume-to-volume ratio ^[2]. The use of such an advanced catalyst for the regular use of industries has been explained in this study. The relevant information for discussing all the aspects of the cohen topic and secondary data collection method has been selected. Through the secondary method of data collection, the analysation of the existing information could be done in a cost-effective manner ^[3]. The use of existing data sources like journals and articles has helped in gathering valuable information in a short time.

IV. EVALUATION OF THE ROLE OF NANOTECHNOLOGY IN CATALYST

Nanotechnology has played a significant role in the field of catalysts. A catalyst is a substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction without being consumed in the reaction itself ^[4]. Catalysts are widely used in chemical and petrochemical industries to increase the efficiency of chemical processes, and nanotechnology has allowed for the development of more efficient and effective catalysts.

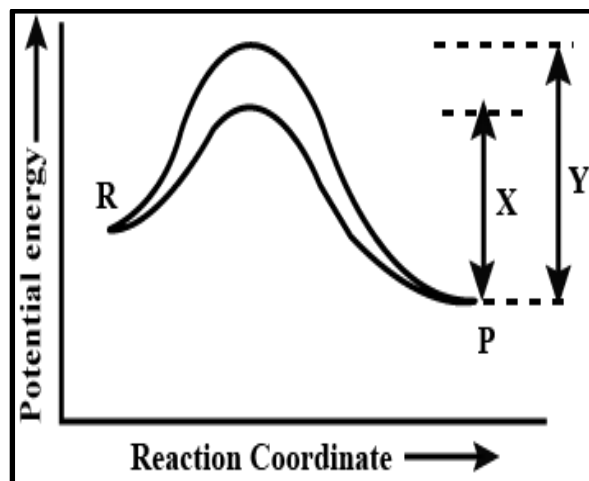


Figure 3: Role of catalysts in activating energy

Nanotechnology has enabled the production of catalysts with much smaller particle sizes^[6]. Such a process of production allows for increased surface area and greater reactivity. Smaller particles have more surface area per unit of mass, providing more sites for catalytic reactions to occur^[8]. Nanoparticles also have unique electronic and chemical properties that differ from their bulk counterparts, which can further enhance their catalytic activity.

In addition to increasing the efficiency of traditional catalysts, nanotechnology has also allowed for the development of new types of catalysts. Nanoparticles can catalyze reactions that are difficult to achieve with traditional catalysts, such as the conversion of carbon dioxide to valuable chemicals or fuels^[10]. The role of nanotechnology in catalysts has been transformative, providing new opportunities for chemical reactions that were previously unfeasible or inefficient, and increasing the efficiency of traditional catalytic processes

V. DISCOVERING THE ROLE OF DEFECTS IN THE NANOCATALYST

Defects can have a significant impact on the performance of nanocatalysts, both positive and negative. In some cases, defects can improve the catalytic activity and selectivity of the nanocatalyst, while in other cases; defects can decrease the catalytic performance^[11]. One important type of defect in nanocatalysts is surface defects. These defects can arise due to the presence of surface impurities, such as oxygen vacancies or adsorbed species, or due to the creation of surface defects during the synthesis of the nanocatalyst^[7].

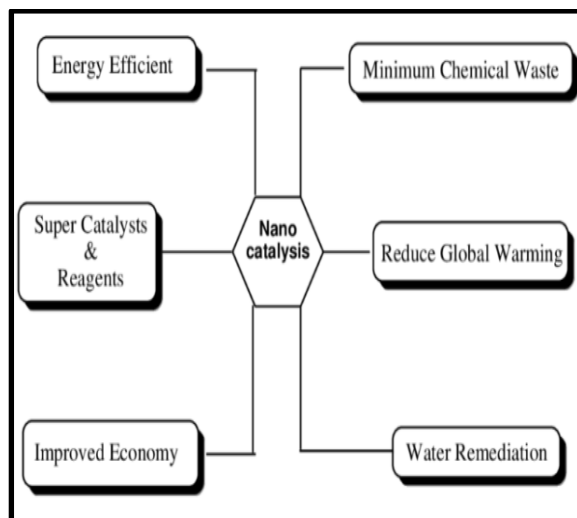


Figure 4: Discovering the benefits of nanocatalysts

Surface defects can affect the electronic and chemical properties of the nanocatalyst, leading to changes in the catalytic activity and selectivity. The presence of oxygen vacancies on the surface of a metal oxide nanocatalyst can improve its ability to absorb and activate reactant molecules, leading to improved catalytic performance.

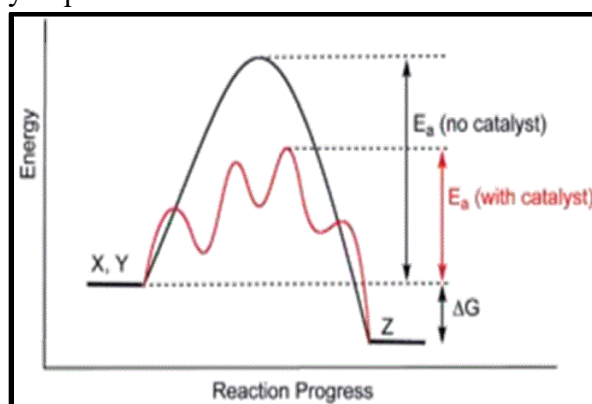


Figure 5: Application of nanocatalysts

Another type of defect that can impact nanocatalysts is structural defects. These defects can arise due to the presence of voids or dislocations within the nanocatalyst structure ^[12]. Structural defects can affect the stability and mechanical properties of the nanocatalyst, as well as its ability to absorb reactant molecules and facilitate catalytic reactions. In some cases, the intentional introduction of defects can be used to improve the catalytic performance of nanocatalysts ^[9]. Doping a metal oxide nanocatalyst with a small amount of a different metal can create defects that improve its catalytic activity and selectivity. Therefore, defects can play a complex and important role in the performance of nanocatalysts. The precise impact of defects on catalytic performance depends on the specific properties of the nanocatalyst and the nature of the catalytic reaction being studied.

VI. ANALYSING THE FACTORS THAT ARE AFFECTING ACTIVITIES OF NANOCATALYST

Factor	The way it is affecting
Particle size	Smaller nanoparticles have a higher surface area to volume ratios which leads to a more active site for catalytic reactions
Shape	Shape of nanoparticles affects the exposure of active sites and the interactions with reactant molecules ^[15]
Composition	Different compositions, like metals, metal oxides, or metal sulfides can have different electronic and chemical properties that affect the catalytic activity and selectivity
Surface area and morphology	Rougher surfaces may have more active sites, while smoother surfaces may have more selective activity
Support material	Nanocatalysts are often supported on a material to provide structural stability and to prevent agglomeration of the nanoparticles
Temperature and pressure	Different reactions have different optimal temperature and pressure ranges, and deviations from these ranges can decrease catalytic activity

Table 1: Analysing the factors that are affecting the activity of nanocatalysts

VII. RECTIFICATION OF THE TRENDS AND RECENT ADVANCES IN DEFECTIVE NANOCATALYST

Defective nanocatalysts have attracted significant attention due to their unique electronic, structural, and catalytic properties. The trend of recent years and the advancement of defective nanocatalysts have increased their usage effectively. Researchers have actively explored the role of different types of defects, such as vacancies, interstitials, and grain boundaries, in enhancing catalytic activity [16]. Defect engineering can also improve selectivity and stability, which are critical for industrial applications. Single-atom catalysis is a promising approach that involves anchoring single atoms of a metal on a support material, creating a highly active catalytic site ^[5].

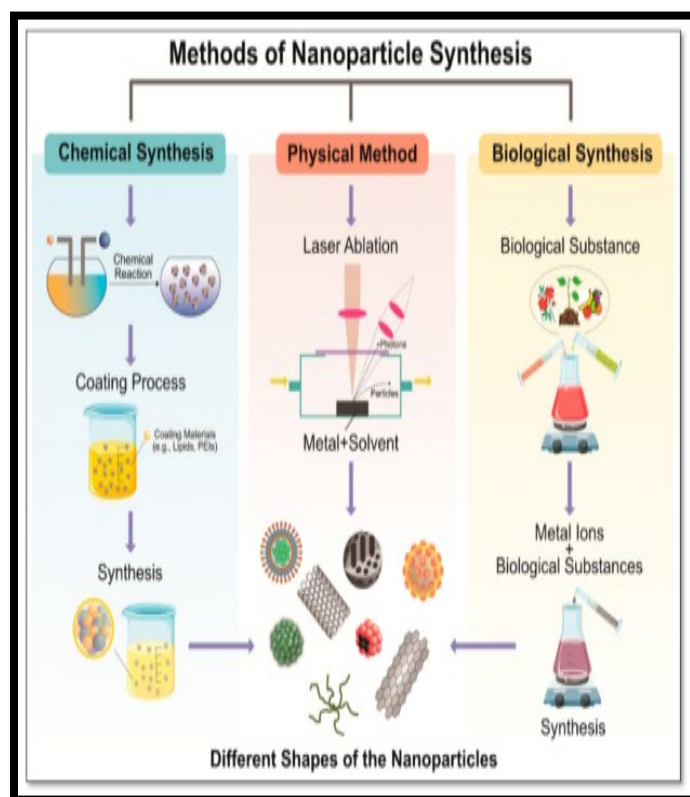


Figure 6: methods of nanoparticle synthesis

The use of defective support materials can enhance the performance of single-atom catalysts by providing more active sites for metal atom anchoring. Advances in in-situ characterization techniques such as high-resolution transmission electron microscopy or HRTEM, X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy or XPS, and synchrotron-based X-ray absorption spectroscopy or XAS are providing new insights into the structure and dynamics of defective nanocatalysts under reaction conditions ^[18]. This information is critical for understanding the relationship between the structure and catalytic properties of these materials.

Computational methods such as density functional theory or DFT and machine learning are increasingly being used to design and optimize defective nanocatalysts. These methods can predict the most stable defect structures, optimize reaction pathways, and screen large numbers of materials for their catalytic activity and selectivity [3]. Defective nanocatalysts are finding applications in a wide range of fields, including energy conversion and storage, environmental remediation, and chemical synthesis. Defective metal oxide nanoparticles are being explored for electrochemical water splitting, while defective metal-organic frameworks are being developed for selective CO₂ capture and conversion ^[17]. The field of nanocatalysts is rapidly evolving by emerging various new applications and their usage.

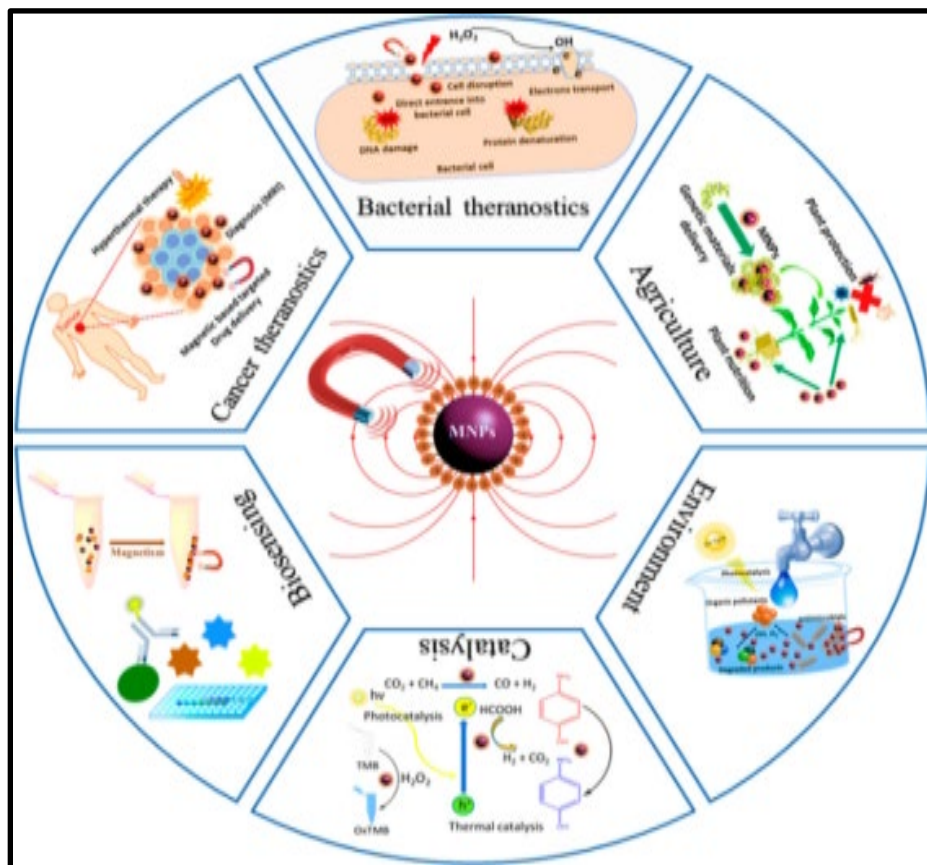


Figure 7: Synthesis of magnetic nanoparticle

VIII. IMPORTANCE OF CATALYSTS IN INDUSTRIES

Nanocatalysts have become increasingly important in industries due to their ability to increase the efficiency and selectivity of chemical reactions. They are used in a wide range of industrial processes, such as petroleum refining, chemical production, and environmental remediation ^[18]. Nanocatalysts have allowed more active sites to be available for chemical reactions, which can lead to higher catalytic activity and selectivity. Additionally, the unique electronic and chemical properties of nanoparticles can provide new opportunities for catalytic reactions that were previously unfeasible or inefficient. In the petroleum refining industry, nanocatalysts are used to improve the efficiency of processes such as hydrocracking, which is used to break down heavy crude oil into lighter, more valuable products such as gasoline and diesel fuel ^[7]. Nanocatalysts can also be used in the production of chemicals such as fertilizers, plastics, and pharmaceuticals.

Top-down technologies	Bottom-up technologies
	(i) Sol-gel
	(ii) Chemical reduction of salts
(i) Mechanical grinding	(iii) Electrochemistry
(ii) Metal vapor	(iv) Solvothermal processing
(iii) Thermal breakdown	(v) Template-directed
(iv) Chemical breakdown	(vi) Precipitation
(v) Spontaneous chemisorption	(vii) Microemulsion
	(viii) Microwave irradiation
	(ix) Sonochemistry

Figure 8: Approaches for nanoparticle synthesis in catalysts

In environmental remediation, nanocatalysts have been explored for the treatment of polluted water and air. Nanocatalysts helped in managing the breakdown of the polluted particles which helps in managing the components in their particles ^[19]. Nanocatalysts have been used to break down harmful pollutants such as volatile organic compounds or VOCs and nitrogen oxides into harmless byproducts. The use of nanocatalysts in industries has the potential to improve efficiency, selectively in an effective manner ^[20]. Nanocatalysts in industries have the potential to improve the efficiency, selectivity, and sustainability of chemical processes, leading to lower costs, reduced waste and increased productivity. As such, the development and application of nanocatalysts is an important area of research and development in the industrial sector.

IX. LIMITATION OF THE NANOCATALYST

Despite their potential advantages, nanocatalysts also have some limitations that can impact their use and application. The different drawbacks and limitations of nanocatalyst have explained below

Limitation factors	Discussion of the limitation
Cost	Production and synthesis of nanoparticles demands different materials with a variety of cost

Stability	Oxidation or posing can lead to the deactivation or degradation of nanocatalysts
Reactant selectivity	Nanocatalysts challenging to use in complex reaction environments due to the multiple reactants or by-products [13]
Toxicity	Some nanocatalysts that contain heavy metals, can be toxic to humans and the environment
Reproducibility	Synthesizing nanocatalysts with consistent properties can be difficult due to the sensitivity of the process to various parameters.

Table 2: Limitation of the nanocatalysts in chemical reaction

X. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Using nanocatalysts has helped in the enhancement of chemical reactions which has helped in getting results later. The use of nanocatalysts in industries has helped in production and manufacturing by speeding the reaction process ^[14]. The results of innovation have been easy to gain for companies due to the use of nanoparticles in catalysts. However, the use of nanocatalysts can bring challenges and problems sometimes that hinder its effective use. Cost issues, safety measures violation and the highly selective nature of this catalyst have reduced the chances of vast use in industrial development ^[11]. In the absence of a catalyst, a variety of products such as medicines, polymers, fine chemicals, fuels, paints, fibres, lubricants, and other value-added products which are essential for humans, would not be feasible. All the important aspects of the use of nanocatalysts need to be registered to find solutions for the future.

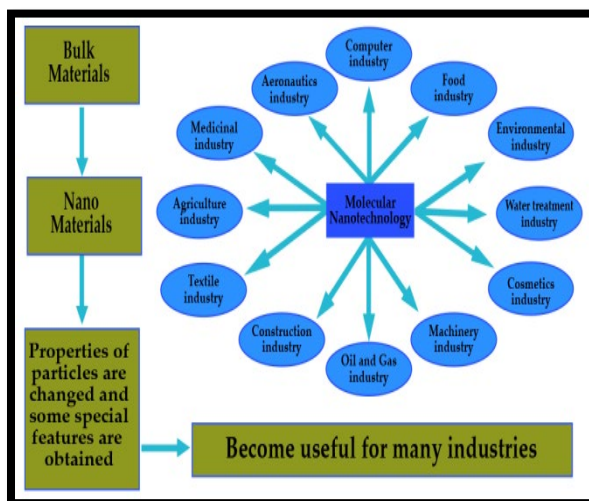


Figure 9: Molecular nanocatalysis

CONCLUSION

The study has covered a detailed discussion of the nanocatalyst and the way recent trends and advances affect nanocatalysts. The use of nanocatalysts in industries has been explained well along with this limitation of nanocatalysts has also been mentioned. Nanocatalysts have a high reacting ability where as the defective nanocatalyst enhances this ability more efficiently. Nanocatalysts have been used to break down harmful pollutants such as volatile organic compounds and other elements however, the cost of using the nanocatalysts is high. The overall discussion has been processed on the basis of the collected data in which a secondary method has been selected.

REFERENCES

- [1].Cam, T. S., Omarov, S. O., Chebanenko, M. I., Izotova, S. G., & Popkov, V. I. (2022). Recent progress in the synthesis of CeO₂-based nanocatalysts towards efficient oxidation of CO. *Journal of Science: Advanced Materials and Devices*, 7, 100399. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsamd.2021.11.001>
- [2].Chen, Q., Tsiakaras, P., & Shen, P. (2022). Electrochemical Reduction of Carbon Dioxide: Recent Advances on Au-Based Nanocatalysts. *Catalysts*, 12(11), 1348. <https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4344/12/11/1348/htm>
- [3].de Sá, M. H., Moreira, C. S., Pinto, A. M., & Oliveira, V. B. (2022). Recent Advances in the Development of Nanocatalysts for Direct Methanol Fuel Cells. *Energies*, 15(17), 6335. <https://www.mdpi.com/1996-1073/15/17/6335/pdf>
- [4].Gebre, S. H. (2023). Recent developments of supported and magnetic nanocatalysts for organic transformations: an up-to-date review. *3107-6351 Nanoscience*, 13(1), 15-63. <https://doi.org/10.1002/aoc.4862>
- [5].Gulati, S., Vijayan, S., Kumar, S., Harikumar, B., Trivedi, M., & Varma, R. S. (2023). Recent advances in the application of metal-organic frameworks (MOFs)-based

- nanocatalysts for direct conversion of carbon dioxide (CO₂) to value-added chemicals. *Coordination Chemistry Reviews*, 474, 214853. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acscatal.2c00159>
- [6]. Guo, D., You, S., Li, F., & Liu, Y. (2022). Engineering carbon nanocatalysts towards efficient degradation of emerging organic contaminants via persulfate activation: A review. *Chinese Chemical Letters*, 33(1), 1-10. <http://www.ccsublishing.org.cn/article/doi/10.1016/j.cclet.2021.06.027>
- [7]. Gupta, S. (2022). Magnetic nanoparticles supported sulfuric acid as a green and efficient nanocatalyst for oxidation of sulfides and oxidative coupling of thiols. *Journal of Synthetic Chemistry*, 1(1), 16-21. https://www.jsynthchem.com/article_149217_3d38f00261a6a7ad0cc74dddae7cdc62.pdf
- [8]. Jin, X., Wu, C., Fu, L., Tian, X., Wang, P., Zhou, Y., & Zuo, J. (2023). Development, dilemma and potential strategies for the application of nanocatalysts in wastewater catalytic ozonation: A review. *Journal of Environmental Sciences*, 124, 330-349. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jes.2021.09.041>
- [9]. Orooji, Y., Pakzad, K., Nasrollahzadeh, M., & Tajbakhsh, M. (2021). Novel magnetic lignosulfonate-supported Pd complex as an efficient nanocatalyst for N-arylation of 4-methylbenzenesulfonamide. *International Journal of Biological Macromolecules*, 182, 564-573. <https://par.nsf.gov/servlets/purl/10225380>
- [10]. Sharifianjazi, F., Esmaeilkhani, A., Bazli, L., Eskandarinezhad, S., Khaksar, S., Shafiee, P., ... & Sadeghi, F. (2022). A review on recent advances in dry reforming of methane over Ni- and Co-based nanocatalysts. *international journal of hydrogen energy*, 47(100), 42213-42233. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acscatal.2c00159>
- [11]. Sinha, A. S. K., & Ojha, U. (2022). Recent trends in development of metal nitride nanocatalysts for water electrolysis application. *Electrocatalysis and Electrocatalysts for a Cleaner Environment: Fundamentals and Applications*, 125. <https://www.intechopen.com/chapters/74780>
- [12]. Somwanshi, S. B., Somvanshi, S. B., & Kharat, P. B. (2020, October). Nanocatalyst: A brief review on synthesis to applications. In *Journal of Physics: Conference Series* (Vol. 1644, No. 1, p. 012046). IOP Publishing. <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1742-6596/1644/1/012046/pdf>
- [13]. Tahir, M. B., Sohaib, M., Sagir, M., & Rafique, M. (2020). Role of nanotechnology in photocatalysis. *Reference Module in Materials Science and Materials Engineering*. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7369164/>
- [14]. Tang, J., Daiyan, R., Ghasemian, M. B., Idrus-Saidi, S. A., Zavabeti, A., Daeneke, T., ... & Kalantar-Zadeh, K. (2019). Advantages of eutectic alloys for creating catalysts in the realm of nanotechnology-enabled metallurgy. *Nature communications*, 10(1), 4645. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-12615-6>

- [15]. Tudu, G., Paliwal, K. S., Ghosh, S., Biswas, T., Koppiseti, H. V., Mitra, A., & Mahalingam, V. (2022). para-Aminobenzoic acid-capped hematite as an efficient nanocatalyst for solvent-free CO₂ fixation under atmospheric pressure. *Dalton Transactions*, 51(5), 1918-1926. DOI: 10.1039/d1dt03821d
- [16]. Weon, S., Huang, D., Rigby, K., Chu, C., Wu, X., & Kim, J. H. (2020). Environmental materials beyond and below the nanoscale: Single-atom catalysts. *ACS Es&T Engineering*, 1(2), 157-172. <https://par.nsf.gov/servlets/purl/10225380>
- [17]. Whang, S. E., Roh, Y., Song, H., & Lee, J. G. (2023). Data collection and quality challenges in deep learning: A data-centric ai perspective. *The VLDB Journal*, 1-23. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2112.06409>
- [18]. Xia, G. J., Lee, M. S., Glezakou, V. A., Rousseau, R., & Wang, Y. G. (2022). Diffusion and Surface Segregation of Interstitial Ti Defects Induced by Electronic Metal–Support Interactions on a Au/TiO₂ Nanocatalyst. *ACS Catalysis*, 12(8), 4455-4464. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acscatal.2c00159>
- [19]. Zhang, W., Han, N., Luo, J., Han, X., Feng, S., Guo, W., ... & Fransær, J. (2022). Critical Role of Phosphorus in Hollow Structures Cobalt-Based Phosphides as Bifunctional Catalysts for Water Splitting. *Small*, 18(4), 2103561. DOI: 10.1002/sml.202103561
- [20]. Zhao, B., Wang, Y., Yao, X., Chen, D., Fan, M., Jin, Z., & He, Q. (2021). Photocatalysis-mediated drug-free sustainable cancer therapy using nanocatalyst. *Nature Communications*, 12(1), 1345. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-021-21618-1>