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Photocatalytic reductive and oxidative ability study of pristine ZnO and CeO<sub>2</sub>-ZnO heterojunction impregnated with Cu<sub>2</sub>O

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*in-situ*

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1 Samples preparation

*ZnO and CeO<sub>2</sub>-ZnO synthesis*

CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH

*via*

CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH

*Surface impregnation of ZnO and CZ1 with Cu<sub>2</sub>O*

CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH

### 2.2 Characterization methods

X'Pert PRO MPD diffractometer using a copper K $\alpha$  radiation source (0.154056 nm). The intensities were obtained in the 2 $\theta$  range between 20° and 80°. X'Pert High





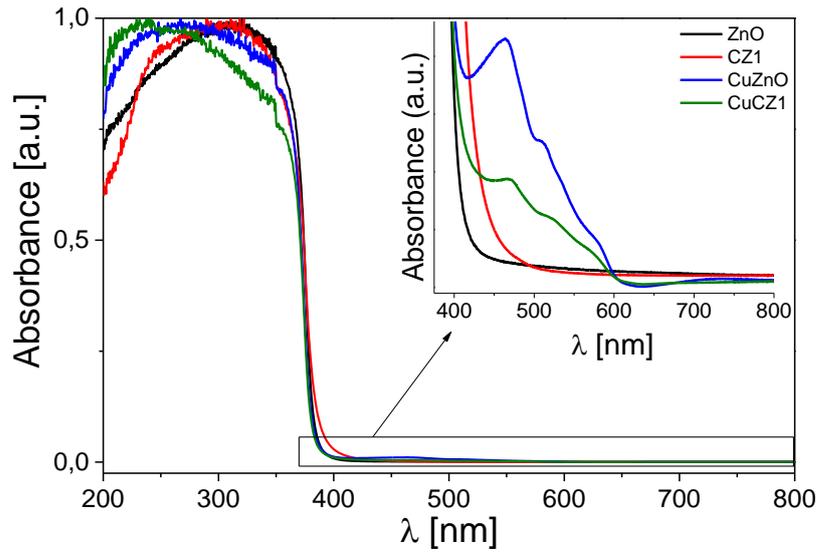
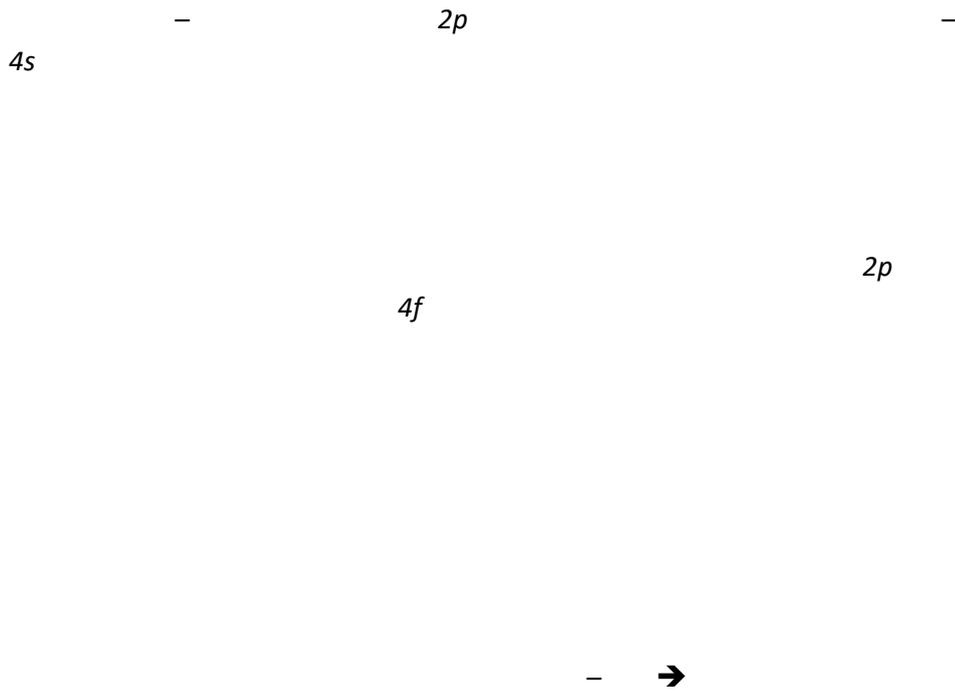


Figure 2. UV- vis analysis Kubelka-Munk diffuse reflectance spectra) of: ZnO (black line), CZ1 (red line), CuZnO (blue line), CuCZ1 (green line).

(Absorbance transformed)



### 3.3 EPR characterization of the impregnated materials

$g$

$g$

$1+$

□

□

$$\hat{H} \beta_e B g \hat{S} \hat{S}^T A \hat{I} \quad (1)$$

$B$

$\beta_e$   
 $S$

$I$

$g$

$A$

□

□

$g_{//}$

$g_{\perp}$

$A_{//}$

$A_{\perp}$

species coming as "waste" from the impregnation

□

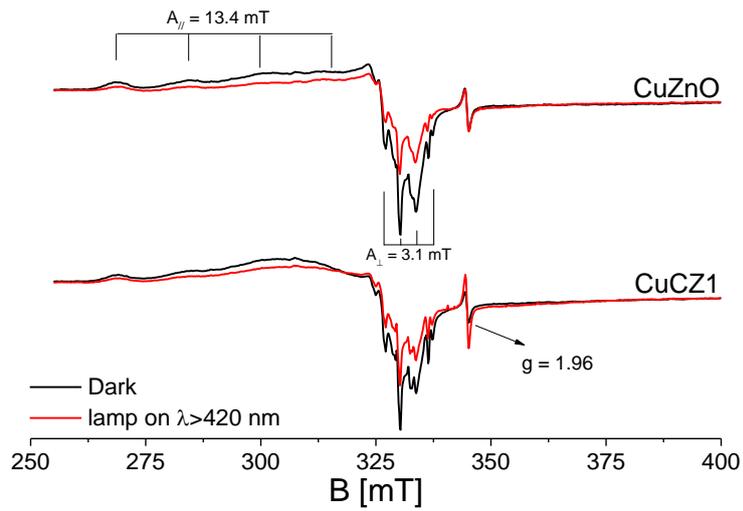


Figure 3. EPR spectra recorded at 77K of CuZnO and CuCZ1 before (black lines) and during irradiation using band pass filter at  $\lambda \geq 420$  nm (red line).

$\lambda \geq$

2+

coming as “waste” from the impregnation procedure

### 3.4 Photocatalytic $H_2$ evolution

$\lambda \geq$

hydrogen evolution reaction

oxygen evolution reaction

Normal Hydrogen Electrode

→

→



μ

### Materials and Methods

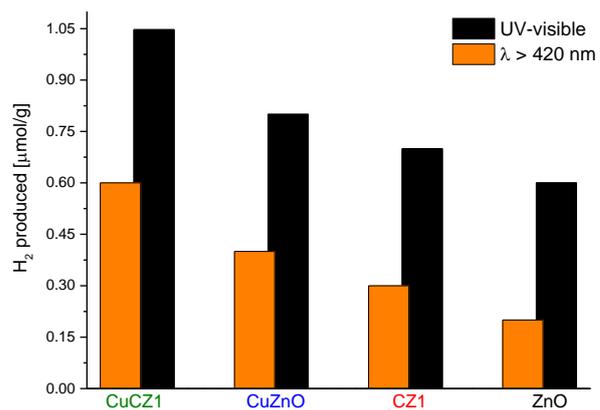


Figure 4. H<sub>2</sub> production over different samples after 2h of irradiation: black bars for UV-visible irradiation, orange bars for band pass filter at λ ≥ 420 nm (solely visible light).

μ

### 3.5 Photodegradation of Tolytriazol

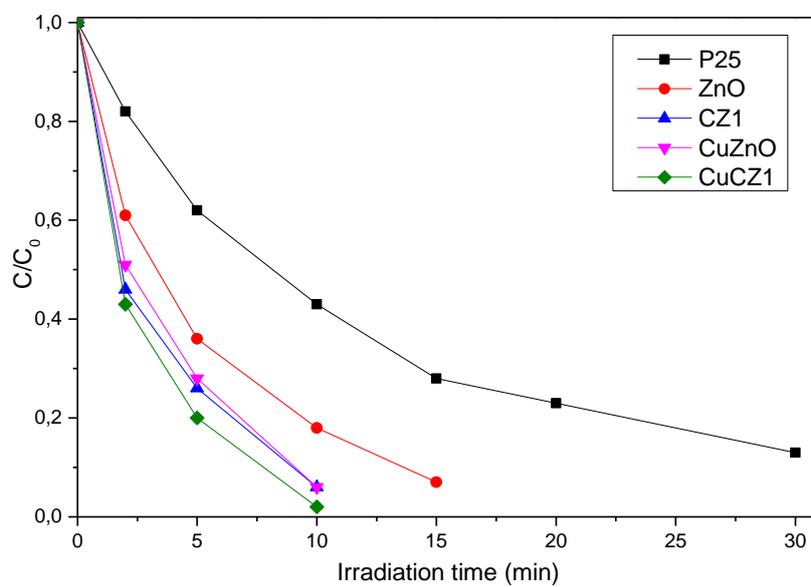


Figure 5. Degradation of tolyltriazol in the presence of the developed photocatalysts.

#### 4. Discussion

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species, coming as “waste” by the synthetic route.

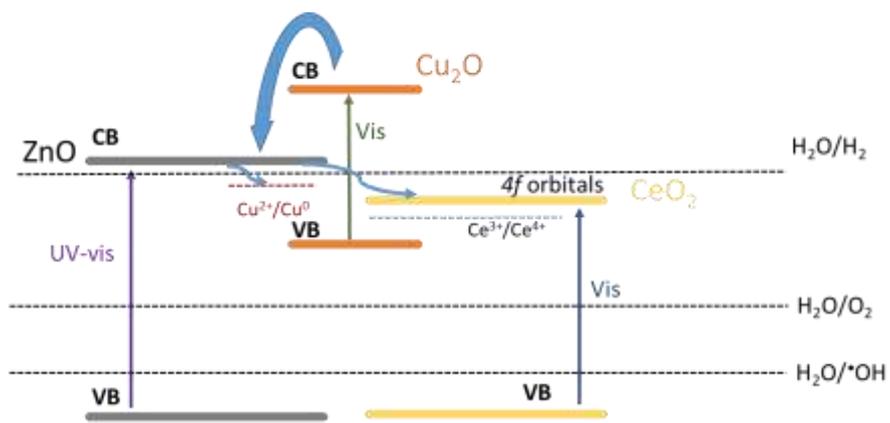


Figure 6. Proposed working mechanism upon irradiation of the triphasic solid  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}-\text{CeO}_2-\text{ZnO}$ .

## 5. Conclusions

doesn't affect the

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e “Multielectron

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			<i>J. Chem. Educ.</i>	<b>93</b>	
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