Making a Grätzel Cell Equipment list



Materials per group:

General Materials:

Scotch Tape Spatula Glass rod

Beaker of water

Pipettes Multimeter Paper towels

Small crystallizing dish

2B pencil beaker Tweezers Spare

2 x small bull dog clips

Torch

2 x crocodile clip leads

Hot plate

Chemicals and speciality materials:

2 x FTO (conducting glass slides) slides

- These are available from ManSolar or you might be able to get some free conducting glass from a company

like Pilkington Glass.

Template for sticking down slides

Colourless detergent Titanium dioxide

-Titanium (IV) dioxide nanoparticles P25 ~21nm particle size is available

from Sigma-Aldrich

2-3 raspberries

Dilute acetic acid or colourless vinegar lodine solution – 5% w/v l/10% w/v KI (in 25ml, 1.25g I and 2.5g KI)

Preparing the electrodes:

Cut the FTO glass into slides of approximately 1.5 cm X 2.5 cm. Clean them using soapy water and then ethanol.

Preparing the Titania paste:

Take some titanium dioxide nanoparticles powder. Mix with dilute acetic acid or colourless vinegar and clear detergent until it is a uniform paste that spreads well over the glass to make a thin layer. You have to do it by eye. If it is a bit thick, just add a little water.

Disposal:

If disposing of the glass electrodes, place them in a sharps or glass bin. It may be possible to recycle the electrodes, depending on how easily the titantium dioxide is removed and whether the conductivity of the glass remains intact.

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