The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Office of Technology Commercialization

Functional Materials in Photonics and Energy

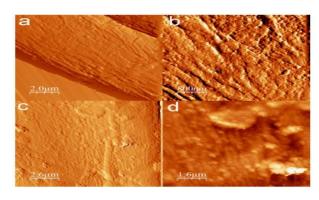
Functional cotton fibers have a wide range of applications in domestic, commercial, and military settings, and so enhancing the properties of these materials can yield substantial benefits. This invention consists of the creation of functional fibers that are self-cleaning, anti-microbial, and protective against UV radiation

Problem

Other technology related to the preparation of photoactive textiles involving TiO₂ use complex treatment methods, and those using noble metal nanoparticles involve the separate synthesis and application of the nanoparticles to the textile.

Solution

This method is more efficient and avoid the use of environmentally harmful materials. This method uses fewer steps than prior methods. AFM scans of (a,b) pristine cotton fiber and (c,d) TiO2 coated cotton fiber.



Value Proposition

The self-cleaning properties of this noble technology offers a better rate of stain extinction than the untreated fibers. This functional coating enhances the properties of the textile fiber to also include photocatalytic and antimicrobial activity.

Competitive Advantages

- · Ease of manufacturing
- Superior efficiency
- The main application of the technology would be in the textile manufacturing and treatment industries
- Photocatalytic and Antimicrobial activity

Status of Development

Commercialization Ready

IP Status

- Patent Pending #US20200325624A1, US20200318283A1
- Licensing available