

EDUCATION OF PHOTOCHEMISTRY TO STUDENTS AND CITIZENS

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Today's society uses various products more or less using action of light on materials such as photoresists, photoimaging and various photofunctional materials in addition to daily goods such as photocopying, fluorescent lamps, fluorescent materials added to detergents, etc. Also, nature is tremendously skillful in using solar light for photosynthesis in green plants and vision in animals, etc. Therefore, it is now very much desirable for students to learn something about photochemistry in their course of chemistry. This will provide them some background for their further work in industry.

The author has started to collect experimental materials for teaching photochemistry since working as a member of IUPAC commission on photochemistry to publish a report [1]. Subsequently, when joining the University of the Air corresponding to the Open University in UK, he incorporated some materials in an educational TV course "Science of material: organic compounds" [2] which is now televised since April 1998.

Now I present some of my efforts to make photochemistry more popular in the course of chemistry for students and citizens.

[1] K. Tokumaru and J. D. Coyle, "A Collection of experiments for teaching photochemistry (technical report)", Pure Appl. Chem., 64, 1342 (1992).

[2] K. Tokumaru, "Science of materials: organic compounds" (original Japanese title: "Busshitsu no kagaku: yuki kagoubusu"), text book and video cassettes, Housou Daigaku Kyoiku Shinkoukai, Tokyo (1998).