

SURFACE CHEMISTRY STUDIES OF CARBON DIOXIDE WITH MAGNESIUM
OXIDE AND TITANIUM DIOXIDE

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Doctor of Philosophy

by
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The undersigned, appointed by the dean of the Graduate School, have examined the dissertation entitled

SURFACE CHEMISTRY STUDIES OF CARBON DIOXIDE WITH MAGNESIUM
OXIDE AND TITANIUM DIOXIDE

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a candidate for the degree of doctor of philosophy

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ABSTRACT

There is significant interest in methods to aid in the removal of carbon dioxide from our environment. The methods range from sequestration to catalytic transformations. In sequestration, CO₂ is collected from emission sources, and may be stored in a variety of materials including geological formations. Catalytic research often involves the transformation of CO₂ to another compound such as methane. The majority of these latter studies focus on the use of photocatalysis for the conversion of CO₂. An alternative method, discussed in this dissertation, is to examine the surface chemistry for the adsorption and thermal reduction of carbon dioxide with magnesium oxide and titanium oxide surfaces. We are also interested in gaining a better understanding of the refractory nature of CO₂.

The overall goal of these studies is to elucidate the surface reaction mechanism for the reaction of carbon dioxide on metal oxide surfaces with and without UV light. We combine the use of X-ray photoelectron and Auger electron spectroscopies to examine the surface chemistry of CO₂. First, carbon dioxide is exposed to the heated metal oxide

surface and the surface atomic concentrations are measured after reaction. The substrate temperature and CO₂ exposure are varied in the experiment. Similar studies are also performed in the presence of UV light to gain a better understanding of photocatalysis. The results from these experiments will be discussed, as well as, the direction of future studies.

Chapter 1 Introduction

1.1 CO₂ Utilization

1.1.1 Overview of greenhouse gases and global warming

Global warming is becoming a severe problem because of human activities. There are many different kinds of greenhouse gasses (GHGs) such as CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O¹. Some of these GHGs are listed in Table 1.1 with their contribution to the global warming. Among them, CO₂ plays a key role. Due vast amounts of fossil fuels combusted and the rapid transformation of forest ecosystems, the average atmospheric concentration of CO₂ had increased from 280 ppmV to 387 ppmV in 2009². Studies by the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) pointed out that if the CO₂ concentration is higher than 500 ppmV, the environment would be deeply affected³. At the same time, increasing amounts of CO₂ released into atmosphere has caused the global mean temperature to rise by 0.5 °C since 1970⁴. Therefore, reducing the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere becomes an important research topic.

Table 1. 1. Relative emission of GHGs

| Compound | Formula | Contribution (%) |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Carbon dioxide | CO ₂ | 79.9% |
| Methane | CH ₄ | 9.5% |
| Nitrous oxide | N ₂ O | 5.8% |

1.1.2 Industrial applications of CO₂

Although the increased amount of CO₂ released in the atmosphere has resulted in an increase of global temperature, it is also potentially a huge source of carbon.

Compared to other materials, like phosgene that is traditionally used to produce polycarbonate by the “phosgene process”, CO₂ is a nontoxic, low cost, and reproducible material. Currently, it is used as a starting material in several industrial processes as follows⁵:

- 1) Reacting with ammonia to produce urea;
- 2) Reacting with sodium phenolate to synthesize salicylic acid which is used for the production of pharmaceuticals and pesticides;
- 3) Polycarbonates synthesized from CO₂;
- 4) Reforming of methanol can be achieved through the water gas-shift reaction, and this technique also led to recent interest in CO₂ surface chemistry.

The utilization of CO₂ could not only reduce the emission of carbon dioxide into the air, but also bring economic benefit. Thus, there is significant interest in methods that

aid in utilizing CO₂ and to achieve the final goal of removal of carbon dioxide from our environment.

1.1.3 Strategies for managing atmospheric CO₂

In order to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, there are two strategies that can be used, adaptive options and mitigative options. Adaptive options include modification of human behavior for the use of land in both the terrestrial and aquatic biosphere like our forests, deserts, wetlands, and methods of cultivation. We cannot trade the ecosystem for profits. Mitigation options include two approaches: reducing and sequestering emissions. Reducing emissions could be realized by enhancing energy use efficiency such as improving energy management, modifying the source energy; altering people's life style; choosing low-C, or no-C fuels as a clean energy source, e.g. wind, water, solar, H₂ and so forth. In sequestration, CO₂ is collected from emission sources, and may be stored in a variety of materials including biotic, geological formations, oceanic, and chemical sequestrations⁶⁻⁷. Figure 1.1 shows the strategies of managing atmospheric CO₂ enrichment.

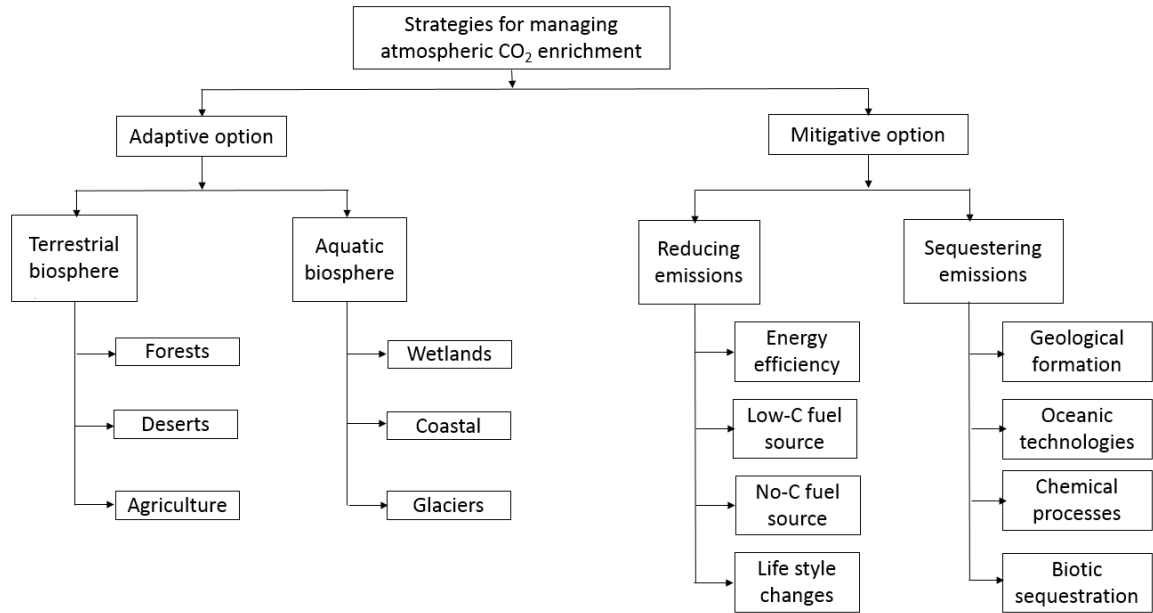


Figure 1. 1. Strategies for managing atmospheric CO₂ enrichment.

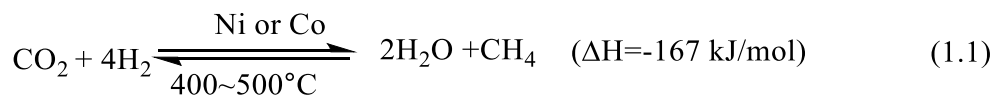
Sequestration includes carbon capture, separation, transportation, storage and utilization. Among them, carbon capture is the key point. There are two methods: physical methods include physical adsorption, cryogenic separation and membrane separation. The second method is chemical adsorption which is becoming the most widely used method. It is often carried out using basic solutions containing an ammine to form chemical bonds with CO₂.

The rate of using carbon dioxide as a starting material is far behind the rate of CO₂ released into the atmosphere. Therefore, how to efficiently recycle carbon dioxide becomes a serious question. Because of its thermodynamic stability, carbon dioxide is the final product of complete combustion reaction. Most reactions using carbon dioxide as the starting material require a catalyst to help convert carbon dioxide into carbon monoxide or a hydrocarbon, such as methane, or methanol. A growing number of

scientists and research groups had tried to react CO₂ with various metal oxides (e.g. ZnO, WO₃, TiO₂, MgO). Recent advances in this area are summarized in a review by Wei-Ning Wang et al⁸ in 2014. Several metal oxide, or modified metal oxide systems are covered in the review, including TiO₂. Most of the photocatalytic studies use UV light as an excitation source. The band gap of TiO₂ is small enough that UV photons can be used to initiate electronic transitions within the oxide. Compared to titanium dioxide's narrow band gap (~3.05 eV), magnesium oxide has a wider band gap (~7.7eV). The difference between these two metal oxides can give an idea of the function of UV light in the photocatalytic reduction of CO₂. Therefore, more details of these two different oxide surfaces will be addressed in section 1.2-1.4.

1.2 Metal oxide surfaces: MgO (100) and TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

While the conversions of CO₂ to methane and methanol have received attention, it is also highly desirable to directly decompose CO₂ to oxygen and carbon. Such a process could provide respirable oxygen useful in isolated habitats. The direct reduction of CO₂ was originally proposed by Sabatier⁹. In this reaction, CO₂ is reacted over Ni or Co metal catalysts at 400-500°C, some carbon deposition was obtained indicating the complete decomposition of CO₂ to carbon and oxygen. However, the reaction had been shown to be incomplete over these metal catalysts, and it requires the addition of hydrogen or steam. The Sabatier reaction today involves the mixture of CO₂ and H₂ to produce CH₄ and H₂O¹⁰ as shown in equation 1.1.



In this dissertation, a series of experiments to explore the interactions of CO₂ with the MgO and TiO₂ surfaces will be described. The final goal is to understand the thermal decomposition of CO₂ on MgO crystal surfaces and try to elucidate the mechanism of CO₂ photocatalytic reduction on TiO₂ single crystal surfaces.

1.3 MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

Magnesium oxide is considered a CO₂ sorbent¹¹ and is widely used to capture CO₂ due to its wide availability in nature, easy regeneration in bulk amount, and low cost. On the other hand, carbon dioxide is used as a probe molecule in many different kinds of investigations of the basic properties of oxide surface. For instance, CO₂ interactions have been followed by the Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Temperature-Programmed Desorption (TPD), and Cluster-Model computational studies¹².

MgO (100) is a refractory metal oxide with a NaCl crystal structure. The (100) plane is presented as the top layer in Figure 1.2. This surface plane contains an equal number of Mg and O atoms. MgO is the starting surface and there are many different types of adsorption sites, including magnesium atoms, oxygen atoms, and step sites. The oxide surface might be altered by UV light or CO₂ (or reaction products). For instance, the UV light might stimulate the desorption of oxygen and create a Mg-rich surface.

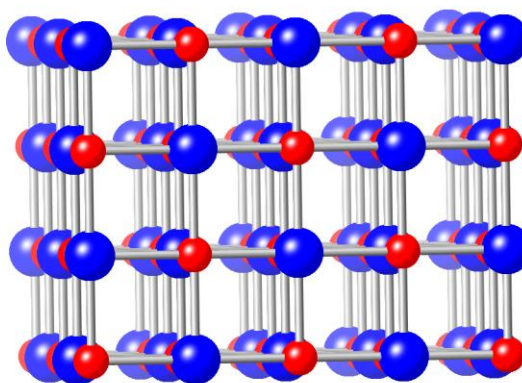


Figure 1. 2. Ball and stick model of the MgO (100) surface. The red spheres represent magnesium atoms and the blue spheres represent oxygen atoms.

1.3.1 Thermal interaction of CO₂ with magnesium oxide surfaces

The adsorption of CO₂ on MgO (100) surfaces has been studied by several research groups¹³⁻¹⁸. These studies examined the low temperature adsorption products and their structures. CO₂ was determined to physisorb at low temperature through a precursor state with little mobility. Due to different adsorption conditions and surface structures, a variety of weakly bond carbonate-like intermediates formed, such as unidentate carbonates, bidentate carbonates, carbonate ions and hydrogen-carbonates¹⁹. Five possible adsorption structures of CO₂ on MgO surface at room or lower than room temperature are shown in Figure 1.3.

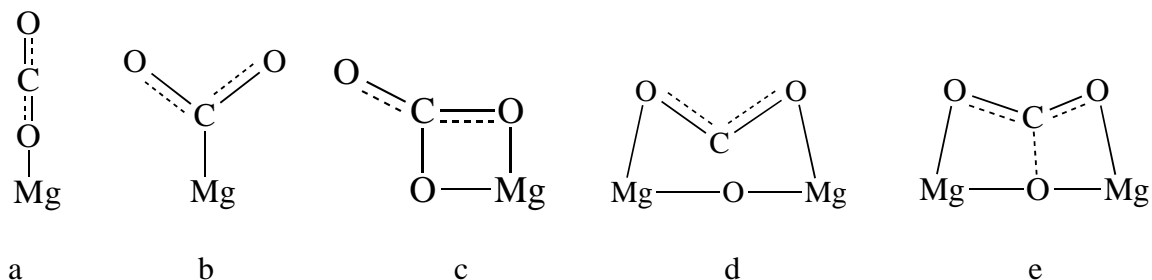


Figure 1. 3. Possible adsorption structures of CO₂ on MgO surface. a. Linear, b. Unidentate, c. Bidentate, d. & e. Bridged.

Unidentate and bidentate carbonate-like structures are the two most common structures on a well degassed MgO surface. Fukuda and Tanabe²⁰⁻²¹ indicated that with a high coverage of adsorbed CO₂, unidentate carbonates are predominant, while at a lower coverage, bidentate carbonates become the major surface species.

Pacchioni¹⁷ investigated the interaction of CO₂ at the surface and at step sites on the MgO (100) surface using an ab initio cluster model and correlated calculations. He concluded that CO₂ physisorbs molecularly at the Mg²⁺ surface and step sites with an end-on linear complex; however, at 0 K, CO₂ could chemisorb on a four-coordinated step O²⁻ sites and form a stable monodentate carbonate.

When CO₂ was adsorbed on the MgO surface, there can also be an oxygen exchange between magnesium oxide surface and carbon dioxide. In Yanagisawa et al¹²'s research, they used three methods, including Temperature-Programmed Desorption (TPD), Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), and ab initio molecular orbital calculations to examine the sites on MgO surface for CO₂ adsorption. They reported that there are two types of carbonate species, Type 1 and Type 2. For Type 2, it is a monodentate carbonate, however, Type 1 is from a monodentate model with partly

“bidentate” and “tridentate” characters. In Tsuji’s study²², they delivered a more detailed TPD study of the MgO surface interaction with C¹⁸O₂ and an IR study of the adsorbed CO₂. They concluded that the oxygen exchange happens at room temperature and at not only O²⁻ basic sites but Mg²⁺ acidic sites are also involved in CO₂ adsorption. A complete detailed picture of CO₂ adsorption on MgO surface is still unclear and further study is needed.

1.3.2 Photocatalysis of CO₂ on MgO (100) surfaces

Magnesium oxide has a 7.7 eV wide band gap, compared to the lower band gap of titanium dioxide (3.0eV-3.2 eV). UV light (defined as a wavelength lower than 290 nm and higher than 161 nm) will not have sufficient energy to photo-excite electrons across the band gap in MgO. This property offers the potential to separate and understand the role of light in the surface reaction of CO₂. However, when MgO surface is exposed to UV light, it might lead to the creation of active sites as we discussed in section 1.3. Therefore, this study will supply more comprehensive knowledge of the surface studies.

1.4 TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

The surface science of metal oxides is a new and young research area. “The Surface Science of Metal Oxides”²³ book which was published in 1994 reviewed single-crystalline metal oxide surfaces in detail. This book is a classic in surface science. In this book, the author mentioned that the number of papers published about metal oxides has increased since 1975 and in 1991 about 100 articles per year are published, the last year they reviewed. Another similar analysis shows that the number of studies of TiO₂ (110) surfaces has increased since 1990 with more than 70 papers published in 2000²⁴.

1.4.1 Applications of titanium dioxide

The reason that the study of titanium dioxide is so popular is its wide range of applications and special properties. Generally, TiO₂ is a metal oxide that is thermally stable, non-flammable, and non-toxic. Meanwhile, TiO₂ is a very good semiconductor with high catalytic activities. Polished crystals with highly good surface quality can be purchased from various commercial companies. These advantages make titanium dioxide competitive for applications in both energy utilization and environmental areas.

Titanium dioxide has long been used as a white pigment because of its high refractive index (3.87). Ultrafine forms of TiO₂ can be applied in cosmetics (e.g. make-up products and sunscreens) owing to its good transparency and UV absorbance. TiO₂ nanomaterials, as an n-type semiconductor with small particle sizes and higher surface area, have been developed as a high quality material. In titanium dioxide, its valance band can create electron-hole (e⁻-h⁺) pairs when irradiated with UV light with wavelength is lower than 387.5 nm. These pairs might migrate to oxide surface and perform redox

reactions with other materials (e.g. O_2 , H_2O) to generate radical species (e.g. O_2^- and $\cdot OH$). These radicals might be able to react with organic molecules and decompose into carbon dioxide and H_2O . This application can be used in vast applications like sterilization²⁵ (e.g. in operation rooms in hospital); purification of wastewaters²⁶; self-cleaning coatings on car windshields²⁷; and protective coatings of marble. The photoelectric and photocatalytic properties of titanium dioxide drive people to explore TiO_2 surfaces in greater detail.

In 1972, Fujishima and Honda²⁸ first indicated that water could be decomposed into H_2 and O_2 by TiO_2 electrodes without an external bias but under light irradiation when the wavelength was shorter than 415 nm ($\sim 3eV$). Since then, people have actively studied photocatalysis on TiO_2 . In 1977, Frank and Bard²⁹ reported that by using TiO_2 as the photocatalyst, they could decompose cyanide (CN^-) to cyanate (CNO^-). In 1979, Inoue et al³⁰ published a paper in Nature about the photoelectrocatalytic reduction of carbon dioxide in aqueous suspensions of semiconductor powders. Choosing WO_3 , TiO_2 , ZnO , CdS , GaP and SiC semiconductors as the photocatalysts, H_2O and CO_2 under the irradiation of Xe or Hg lamp resulted in a redox reaction to yield $HCOOH$, CH_3OH , CH_3O and a very little amount of CH_4 . The photocatalytic reduction of CO_2 with TiO_2 has the potential to contribute to the environmental protection and energy saving. The photocatalytic reduction of CO_2 with TiO_2 is a main part to discuss in this dissertation and the overview about the mechanism of titanium dioxide photocatalysis reaction is addressed in section 1.4.7.

1.4.2 The structure of TiO₂ surfaces

Despite the wide range applications of TiO₂, there is still a lacking of a complete understanding of the surface science of TiO₂. Several outstanding reviews about the single-crystalline metal oxide surfaces were published recently and TiO₂ surfaces studies constitute a good portion of the reviews. Therefore, it is very necessary to have a general picture of titanium dioxide surfaces by introducing its structure first and this is explained in detail in this section. The ball and stick model of the perfect (110) plane is presented in Figure 1.4. There are many different types of adsorption sites, including titanium atoms that are drawn as red spheres, oxygen atoms that are shown as blue spheres and step sites.

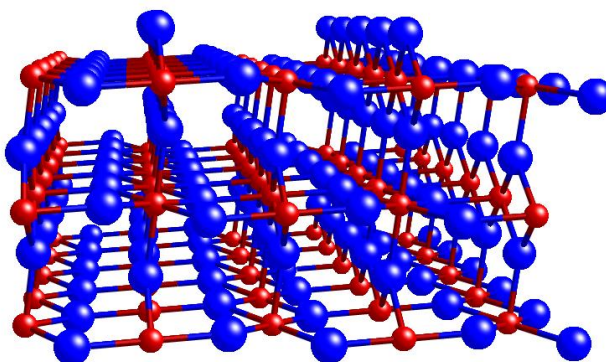


Figure 1. 4. Ball and stick model of the TiO₂ (110) surface. The red spheres represent Ti atoms and the blues spheres represent oxygen atoms.

1.4.3 Bulk structure

There are three major titanium dioxide structures: rutile (tetragonal, D_{4h}^{19} – $I4_2/mnm$, $a = b = 4.854 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 2.953 \text{ \AA}$ ³¹), anatase (tetragonal, D_{4h}^{19} - $I4_1/amd$, $a = b = 3.782 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 9.502 \text{ \AA}$) and brookite (rhombohedral, D_{2h}^{15} - $Pbca$, $a = 5.436 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 9.166 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 5.135 \text{ \AA}$)³². There are some other TiO_2 structures, for example, cotunnite TiO_2 that is one of the hardest polycrystalline materials known and must be synthesized at high temperature³³. Rutile and anatase play the main roles in surface science studies because of their high catalytic reactivity. Anatase has the best photocatalytic reactivity, while rutile is the most stable structure. Usually, in the lab we can make the amorphous titanium dioxide and after calcination ($T > 700K-800K$) it would be transformed into anatase, and becomes rutile. Surface science studies of anatase single crystals begun in year 2000³⁴⁻⁴². However, the rutile surfaces have been examined more extensively⁴³⁻⁴⁷. By using controlled conditions, people can generate rutile, anatase and brookite easily. For both rutile and anatase, the basic building block includes a titanium atom, surrounded by six atoms, in a slightly distorted octahedral configuration. The only difference between rutile and anatase is the distortion and the connection between the octahedrons. There are two different connections between octahedrons shown in Figure 1.5, sharing corners and sharing edges.

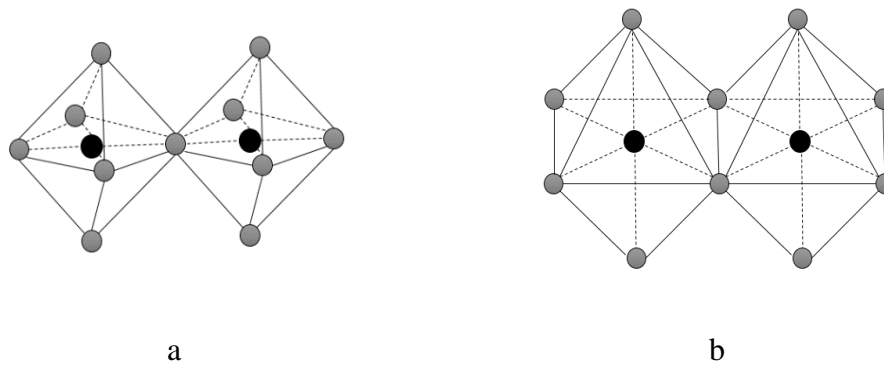


Figure 1. 5. Two different connections between octahedrons. a) Sharing corners; b) Sharing edges. The black dots represent titanium atoms and the grey dots represent oxygen atoms.

The bulk structures of rutile and anatase are shown in Figure 1.6. In the rutile structure, every octahedron is connected with 10 other octahedrons, two share edges and the other 8 share corners along (110) direction. Two titanium dioxide molecules compromise a crystal unit, and the distortion of the octahedral is less than that of anatase. The length of the Ti-Ti band is shorter than that of anatase, however, the length of Ti-O band is longer than that of anatase. As to anatase, each crystal unit has four TiO_2 molecules and every octahedron is connected with eight octahedrons, four share the corners and the other four share the edges along (001) direction. Brookite is a rhombohedral which is not shown in Figure 1.6, and each crystal unit consists six titanium dioxide molecules. All of stacking of the octahedrons in the three different titanium dioxide structures results in threefold coordinated oxygen atoms.

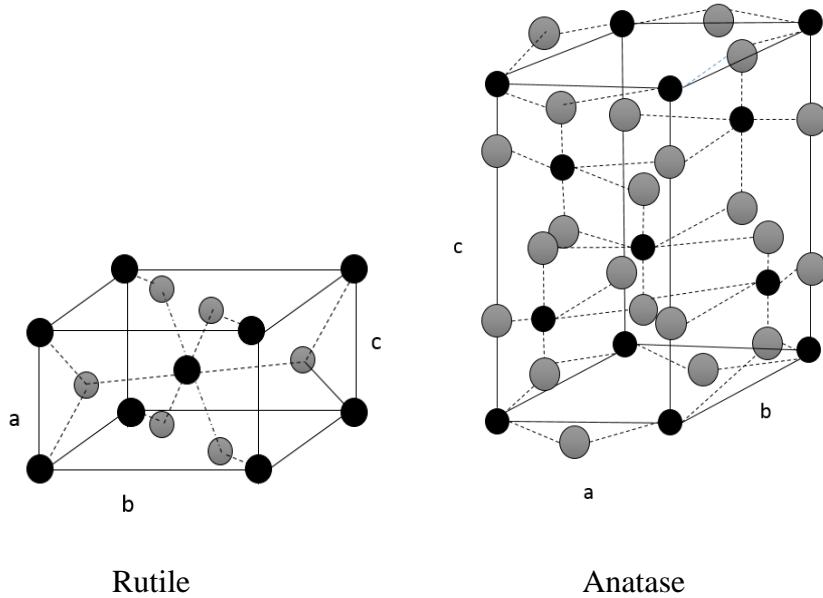


Figure 1. 6. Bulk structures of rutile and anatase. The tetragonal bulk unit cell of rutile has the dimensions, $a = b = 4.584 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 2.953 \text{ \AA}$; and the one of anatase $a = b = 3.782 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 9.502 \text{ \AA}$). The black spheres are titanium atoms, the grey spheres are oxygen atoms.

There are several stable low-index planes of titanium dioxide as shown in Figure 1.7. Ramamoorthy and Vanderbilt⁴⁸ used a Wulff construction⁴⁹ to illustrate the equilibrium crystal shape of a macroscopic crystal to calculate the total energy of periodic titanium dioxide slabs by employing a self-consistent *ab initio* method. Their calculations showed that the (110) surface has the lowest surface energy while (001) surface has the highest. As to the (100) and (011) surfaces, their surface energies were lying between these two extremes. For rutile, (110) surfaces are the most stable compare

to the (011) and (100) surfaces. More details about the (110) surface will be addressed in section 1.4.4 below.

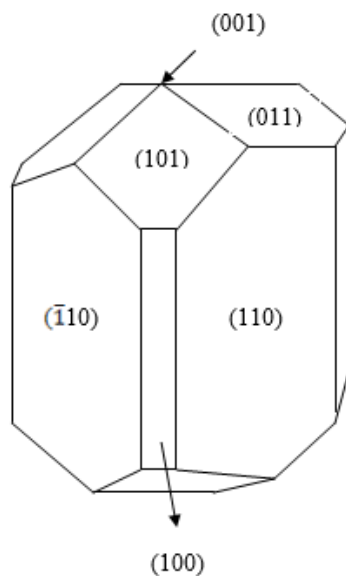


Figure 1. 7. The equilibrium shape of a macroscopic TiO₂ crystal.

1.4.4 The structure of the rutile TiO₂ (110) surfaces

As discussed above, the rutile (110) surface has the lowest surface energy and is the most stable crystal surface. When we prepare the surfaces, by cutting or cleaving, it will create different kinds of titanium atoms or oxygen atoms which play very important roles in surface reactions. According to Tasker's⁵⁰ discussion about the stability of ionic surfaces and LaFemina's⁵¹ total energy computations of oxide surface reconstructions, we are able to create a stable (110) surface. On this surface, there are two different types of titanium atoms. The Ti labeled number 1 in Figure 1.8A is a sixfold coordinated Ti

atom in the bulk structure becomes a fivefold coordinated Ti atoms with one dangling bond perpendicular to the surface (Figure 1.8B). At the same time, bridging oxygen atoms (labeled number 3 in Figure 1.8A) are also present. They are altered from the threefold coordination observed in the bulk to twofold coordinated oxygen.

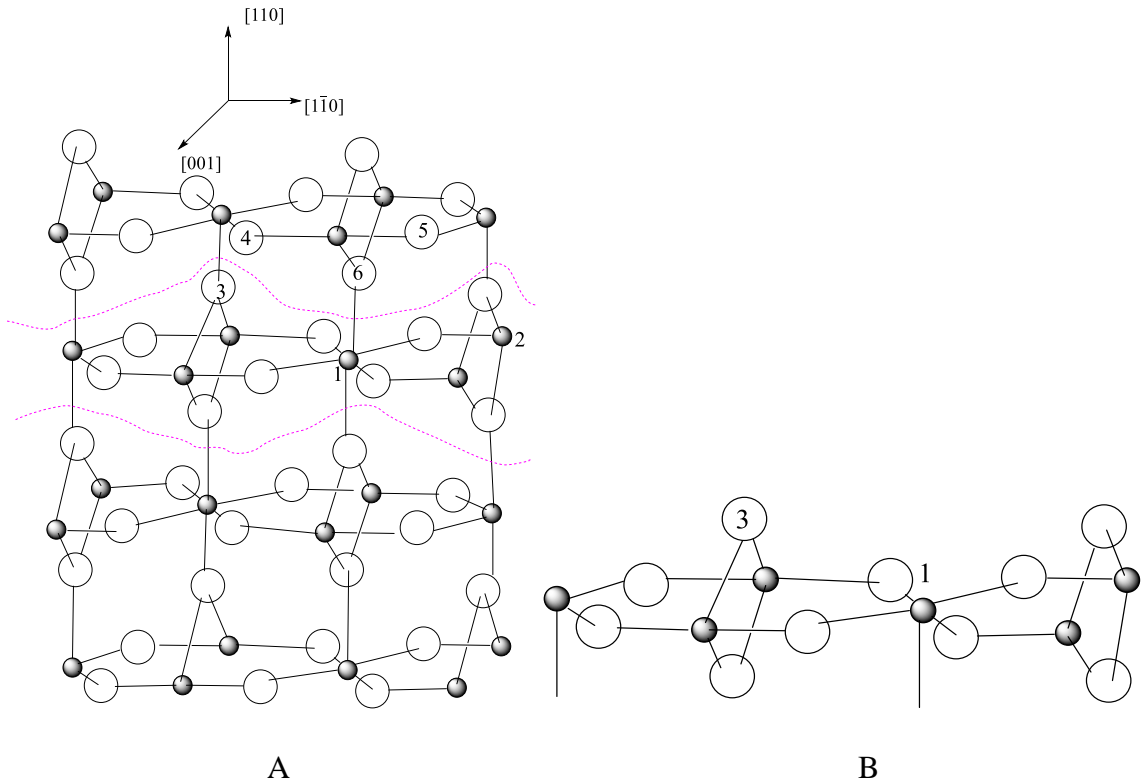


Figure 1. 8. Model of the TiO₂ (110)-(1×1) surface. A. bulk structure. B. The crystal is ‘cut’ along pink line. The same number of Ti→O and O→Ti bonds are broken, and the surface is autocompensated.

1.4.5 Surface defects

Titanium dioxide surfaces can also have a number of surface defects that can change its electronic structure and this leads to an active photocatalyst. In this section, the step edges, and oxygen vacancies which are produced by sputtering, thermal annealing and electron bombardment in UHV are discussed.

i. Step edges

Sputtering and annealing ($T \sim 1000\text{K}$) in UHV is the common method of generating a clean and flat surface. Fisher et al.⁵² had shown that when annealing sputter-damaged surfaces, the terrace size increases with the annealing temperature. Owing to the step geometries, the coordination number of atoms (e.g. Ti, O) at step edges and kink sites is altered. For example, the threefold O atoms in the bulk along the $\langle 1\bar{1}1 \rangle$ step edge in Figure 1.8 will change to twofold coordination; meanwhile, the formation of step edges change six-fold Ti atoms in the bulk to five-fold coordination Ti atoms. The decrease in coordination number of the atoms often correlate with an increase in chemical reactivity. S. Suzuki⁵³ reported that pyridine molecules preferred to adsorb at the fourfold coordinated Ti atoms located at step sites rather than the fivefold coordinated sites.

ii. Oxygen vacancies

There is overwhelming spectroscopic and chemical evidence showing that oxygen vacancies of titanium dioxide can be created by annealing in UHV, bombardment with electrons, and irradiation by UV light at the surface⁵⁴. Figure 1.9a shows the ball and stick models of vacancy free titanium dioxide surface. Bridging oxygen vacancies along the [001] direction of titanium dioxide surface as shown in Figure 1.9b. Exposure of

molecular oxygen to the surface at room temperature will cause the defect state disappear.

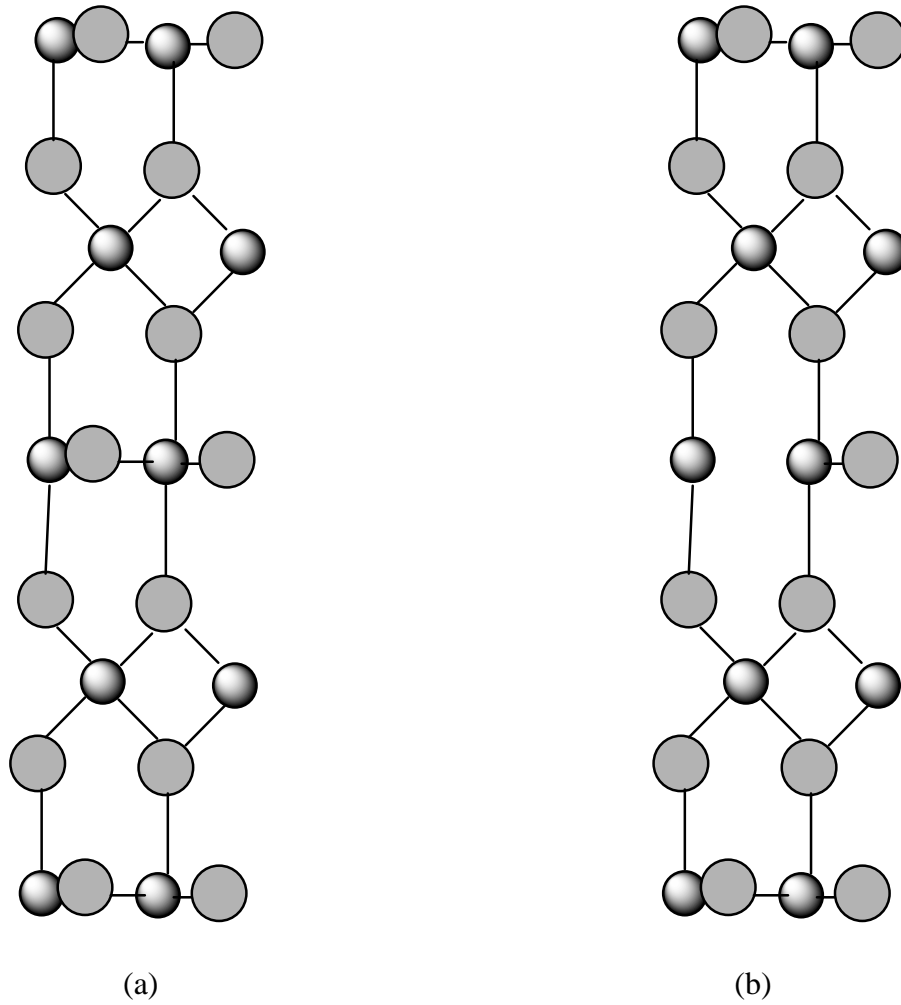


Figure 1. 9. Ball-and-stick model of TiO₂. The small black spheres represent titanium atoms and the large grey spheres represent oxygen atoms: (a) vacancy-free surface, (b) bridging oxygen vacancy

1.4.6 Band bending

For a stoichiometric (clean) TiO_2 surface, the conduction and valence band are flat⁵⁵. Reduced titanium dioxide is an n-type semiconductor and contains a number of defects, such as oxygen vacancies, O_v . The extra electrons which are initially located in O (2p) orbitals and are then transferred into the conduction band and create an accumulation layer in the near-surface region. This results in downward band bending as shown in Figure 1.10.

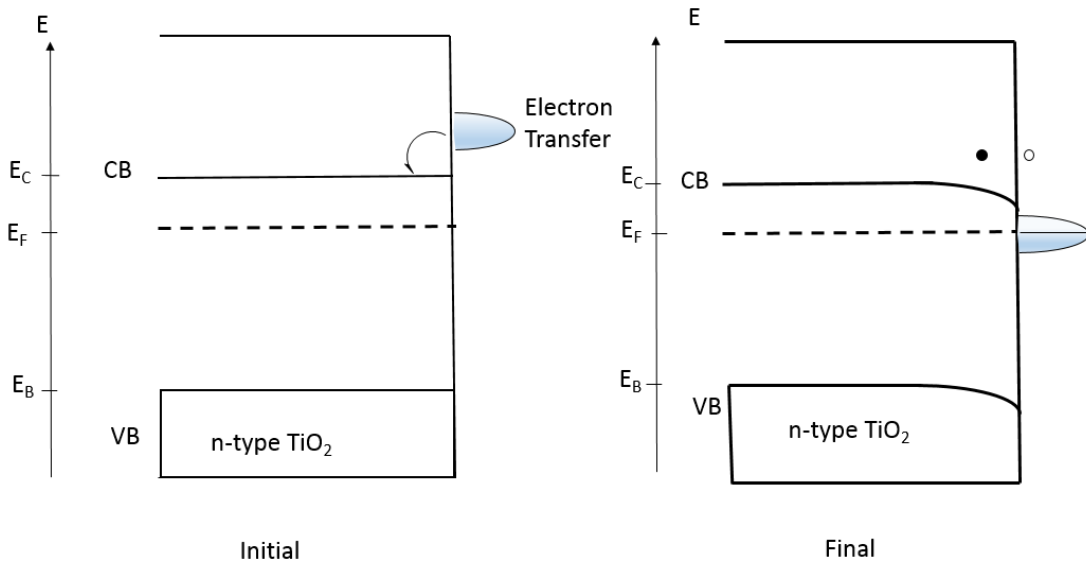


Figure 1. 10. Schematic diagram of the surface band-bending of a clean n-type TiO_2 in a vacuum due to the presence of surface defect states (black dot, electron; circle dot, hole. Another energy diagram of clean n-type TiO_2 has been discussed by Diebold²⁴.)

1.4.7 Overview of photocatalytic reaction of CO₂

In 1978, Halmann et al.⁵⁶ used a p-type gallium phosphide crystal under UV light irradiation in an electrochemical cell and followed the photoelectrochemical reduction of aqueous carbon dioxide to yield HCOOH, CH₃O and CH₃OH. This was the earliest study of the photoelectrochemical reduction of carbon dioxide. Since then, researchers have tried different semi-conductors in order to find a better photocatalyst for the reduction of carbon dioxide. TiO₂ is one of the most studied semiconductors in heterogeneous photocatalysts.

1.4.8 Single crystal TiO₂ catalyst and mechanism of TiO₂ photocatalysis

Anpo⁵⁷ examined the photocatalytic reduction of carbon dioxide with water on various TiO₂ catalysts and found that anatase crystals have a larger surface area and higher quantum efficiency. Therefore, its photocatalytic activity was better than rutile. The results are shown in Table 1.2.

Table 1. 2. Physical properties and photocatalytic activity of TiO₂ catalysts

| Catalyst | Surface area / (m ² ·g ⁻¹) | CO ₂ absorbed /(μmol·g ⁻¹) | Reduction of CO ₂ / (μmol·g ⁻¹) |
|-----------|--|--|---|
| Anatase 1 | 16 | 1 | 0.03 |
| Anatase 2 | 49 | 10 | 0.17 |
| Rutile 1 | 51 | 17 | 0.02 |
| Rutile 2 | 3 | 0.4 | 0.04 |

Saji⁵⁸⁻⁵⁹ and Tan⁶⁰ found that TiO₂ with UV light irradiation, could reduce CO₂ to different fuels (e. g. methane, methanol, and ethanol). Using CO₂ photocatalytic reduction on TiO₂ with H₂O as an example, an explanation of the possible mechanism is shown as equation 1.2.

Table 1.3 shows the band gap energies for three different phases of TiO₂ nanoparticles⁶¹. The band gap of TiO₂ is 3.0~3.2 eV which means the electrons in valence band of titanium can be irradiated by UV light with enough (greater than the band gap) energy and the excited electrons in valence band will be able to transfer to the conduction band and create electron-hole pairs (e⁻-h⁺) as shown in Eq. 1.2a. These electron-hole pairs can migrate to the surface of titanium and lead to desirable reduction and oxidation reactions when there are acceptors and donors at the surface. Figure 1.11 is a schematic of the photoexcitation of titanium dioxide with CO₂ and H₂O⁶². H₂O can initiate an oxidation reaction by combining the photo-generated valence band hole and yield H⁺ and ·OH radical as shown in Eq. 1.2b. OH[·] is a very strong oxidant and usually used to kill the bacteria in real life. At the same time, CO₂ would accept the electrons which are trapped in the conduction band and be reduced to CO₂^{·-} radicals as shown in Eq. 1.2c.

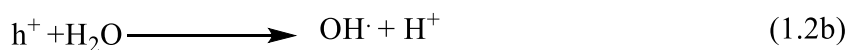


Table 1. 3. Band gap energies of three different phase-pure TiO₂ nanoparticles

| Phase-pure TiO ₂ | Bandgap energy/ eV |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Rutile | 3.0 |
| Brookite | 3.13 |
| Anatase | 3.21 |

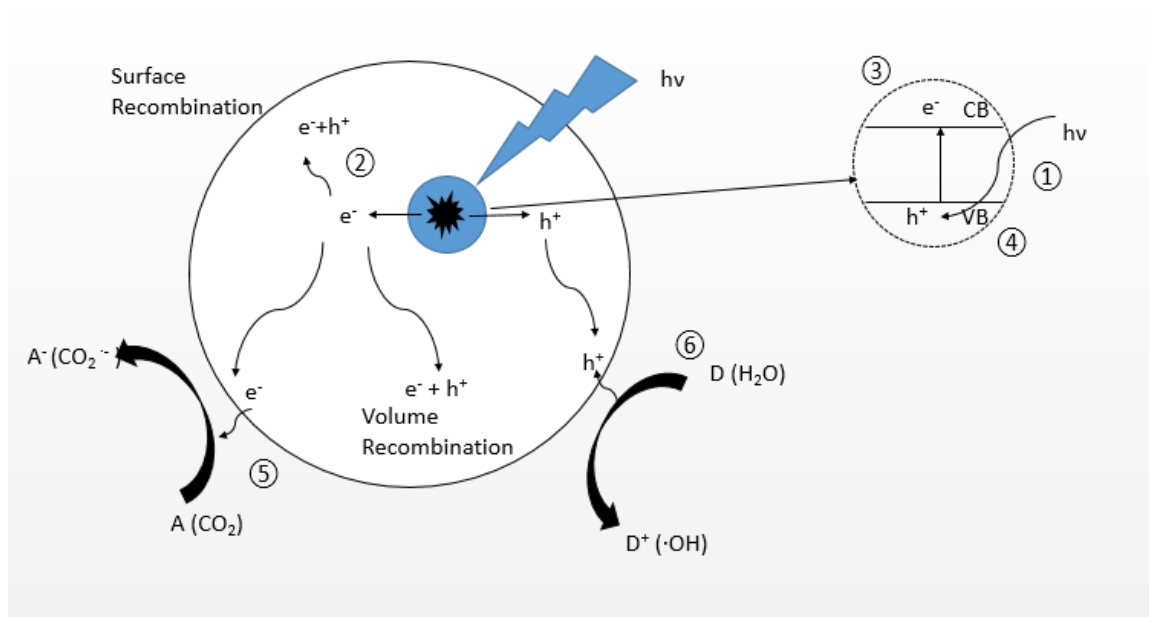


Figure 1. 11. Primary steps in photocatalytic mechanism on TiO₂ and later events.

① formation of charge species electron (e⁻) and hole (h⁺) by a photon, ② recombination of e⁻ and h⁺, ③ trapping of a conduction band electron, ④ trapping of a valence band hole, ⑤ initiation of reduction reaction by photo-generated conduction band electron, i.e. CO₂^{-•} radical, ⑥ initiation of oxidative pathway by photo-generated valence band hole, i.e. formation of surface adsorbed OH[•] radical in aqueous system.

1.4.9 The modification of TiO₂

Because of the band gap of TiO₂ is relatively small (3.0 eV-3.2 eV), light with a wavelength lower than 387 nm for anatase and smaller than 413 nm for rutile can be used to irradiate the surface with enough energy to photo-excite electrons. In order to enhance the utilization of solar energy, people tried many methods to modify titanium dioxide by metal doping (e.g. Ru⁶³, Cu⁶⁴), metal oxide doping (e. g. CuO, ZnO, Li₂O⁶⁵) and non-metal doping (e. g. N⁶⁶). The goal of doping efforts is mostly to shift the wavelength of light more to the visible region, while retaining catalytic activity.

There are several drawbacks to these methods. First, the utilization rate of solar energy is low. Because of the properties of titanium dioxide, the photocatalysts can only absorb the UV portion of the solar spectrum. Secondly, the high rate of recombination of photoexcited electron-hole pairs leads to a lower quantum efficiency. Although many methods are used to suppress these combinations, further development is needed. Lately, the recycle efficiency of the photocatalysts is not good. As the number of times that a catalyst cycled, their catalytic activity becomes poorer. Because of the drawbacks mentioned, there is still significant effort focused trying to understand the mechanism of CO₂ reduction and in the development of better catalysts.

1.5 Overview of surface analytical techniques

For the experiments described in this dissertation, the approach is to use ultra-high vacuum (UHV) based surface chemical studies with single crystals. In the UHV-based studies, X-ray photoelectron and Auger electron spectroscopies are used to examine the surface chemistry occurring upon adsorption and reaction of CO₂ as a function of different surface temperatures and pressures. All of these analytical techniques will be introduced in this section.

1.5.1 Mechanism of Auger electron spectroscopy (AES)

Auger electron spectroscopy is one of the most useful surface analytical analysis method. It can provide elemental information about a material from the first 2-10 outermost atomic layers. Figure 1.12 shows schematically the Auger process. In the first step of the Auger process, a high energy particle (an electron beam in our case) creates a core hole in the K shell of an atom. An electron from an outer electron orbital level such as L₁ in Figure 1.12 that is closer the Fermi level (zero atomic energy level for binding energies of electrons) fills in the K hole. During this transition, there is a transfer of energy which will result in a third electron being ejected (L₂ in Figure 1.12). In the final state, there are two electron holes in the atom, one in the L₁ orbital and the other in the L₂ orbital. We can estimate the kinetic energy of an Auger electron from an element with atomic number Z ($Z \geq 3$) using equation 1.3. The Auger transition energy involves all three electronic orbital energies within the atom. Using the orbitals from Figure 1.12, the energy is:

$$E = E_K - E_{L1} - E_{L2} - \Phi_A \quad (1.3)$$

Where Φ_A is the work function of the analyzer and K, L₁, and L₂ are the three energy levels involved in the Auger process.

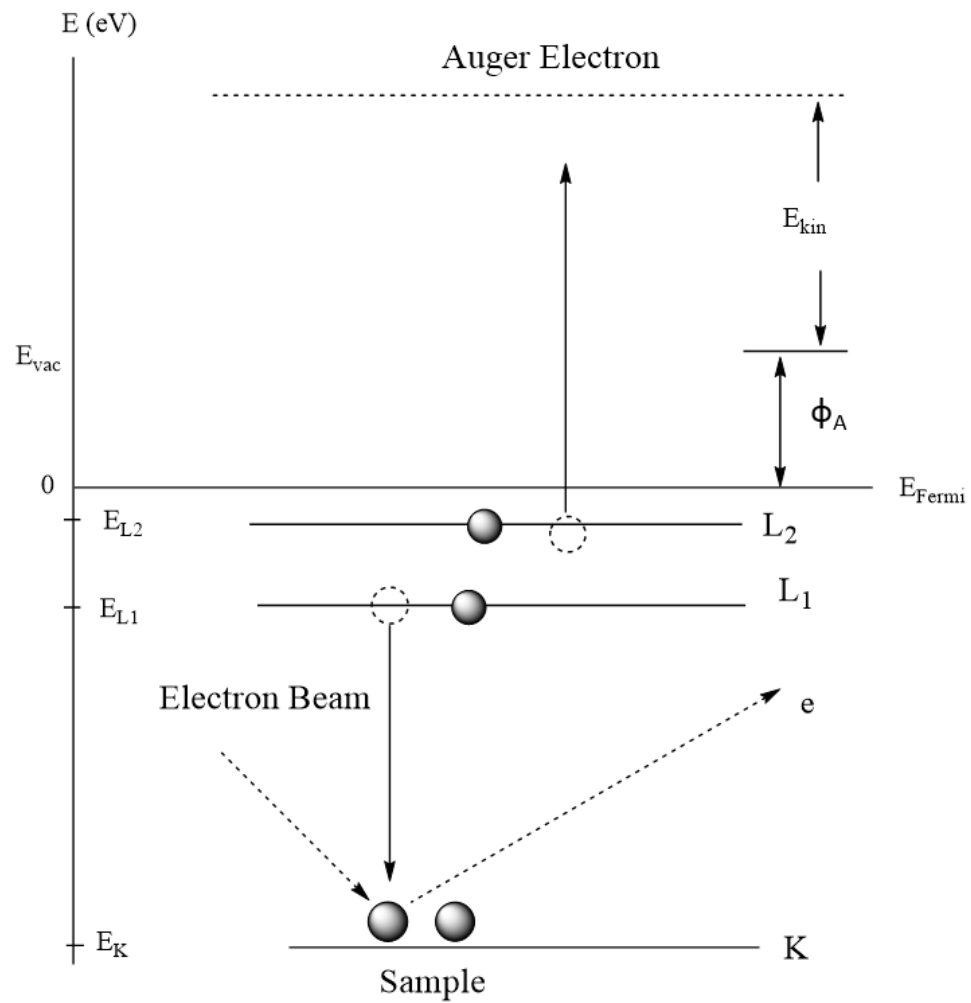


Figure 1. 12. Overview of the Auger process.

1.5.2 Mechanism of X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS)

X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) is another important qualitative and quantitative surface analysis technique. It is performed under ultra-high vacuum (UHV) condition by irradiating the sample with a beam of X-rays and the kinetic energy of the emitted electrons is measured to obtain a spectrum.

Figure 1.14 illustrates the process of X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy. The sample surface to be analyzed is placed in the ultra-high vacuum chamber, and then irradiated with X-ray photons. The kinetic energy and number of the emitted electrons are measured with an electron energy analyzer. Because the energy of an X-ray with particular source is known, the binding energy of each emitted electron can be determined by using equation 1.4:

$$E_{\text{binding}} = E_{\text{photon}} - (E_{\text{kinetic}} + \phi) \quad (1.4)$$

where E_{binding} is the binding energy (BE) of the photoelectron, E_{photon} is the energy of the X-ray photons being used, E_{kinetic} is the kinetic energy of the photoelectron as measured by the electron energy analyzer and ϕ is the work function of the spectrometer (not the material).

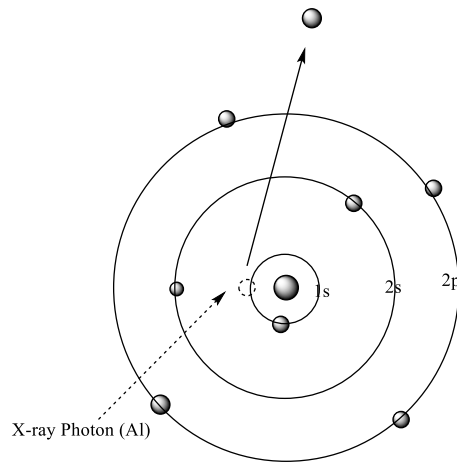


Figure 1. 13. Process of XPS in UHV.

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Chapter 2 Experimental Methods

2.1 Instrumentation and calibration

All experiments were performed in an ultra-high vacuum (UHV) system which is equipped with an ion and turbomolecular pump. The base pressure of the system used in this study was 2×10^{-10} torr. The UHV chamber is equipped with facilities for XPS and AES. XPS measurements are performed using a twin anode (Mg/Al) X-ray source (VSW TA-10). The Mg (K_{α}) anode is operated at 15 kV and 20 mA (300 Watts) and the Al (K_{α}) anode is operated at 15 kV and 30 mA (450 Watts). A double-pass cylindrical mirror analyzer (CMA) is operated in the fixed pass energy mode for XPS to measure the kinetic energy of the emitted electrons. A pass energy of 50 eV was used for high-resolution scans. A clean Au sample was used to calibrate the spectrometer. The following gold transitions were used for the calibration: Au $4f_{7/2}$ (84.0 eV), Au $4d_{5/2}$ (335.0 eV), and Au $4p_{3/2}$ (546.0 eV). The Mg ($2p_{3/2}$) XPS transition for the clean surface was recorded and the spectrum was corrected to a binding energy of 51.7 eV, using the Au calibration.

In photochemical experiments, a Hg UV light source lamp (100 watt) was used for the irradiation of the MgO and TiO₂ single crystal surfaces. The UV lamp was oriented along the sample surface normal. The sample surfaces were irradiated by the light through a sapphire window mounted on the UHV chamber.

2.2 Materials

2.2.1 Preparation of MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

MgO(100) single crystal substrates (Sigma-Aldrich, 10×10×0.5 mm, >99.9% purity, trace metal basis) were cleaned by cycles of exposing the crystal to oxygen (Linde, research grade, >99.998% purity) for ~30 minutes at a pressure of 4×10^{-7} torr while maintaining a surface temperature of ~700°C. Surface cleanliness was measured by Auger electron spectroscopy (AES). A surface was considered clean when the measured carbon atomic concentration was less than one percent. Figure 2.1 is Auger spectra of the MgO (100) single crystal surface. The green line is MgO surface before cleaning. The atomic percentage of carbon which located at the peak position 272 eV is 12.3 %. The red line is the AES spectrum taken after cycles of O₂ cleaning. The carbon contamination is gone and the percentage of carbon decreased to 0%. The O peak is measured at 503 eV and the Mg peak is measured at 1174 eV.

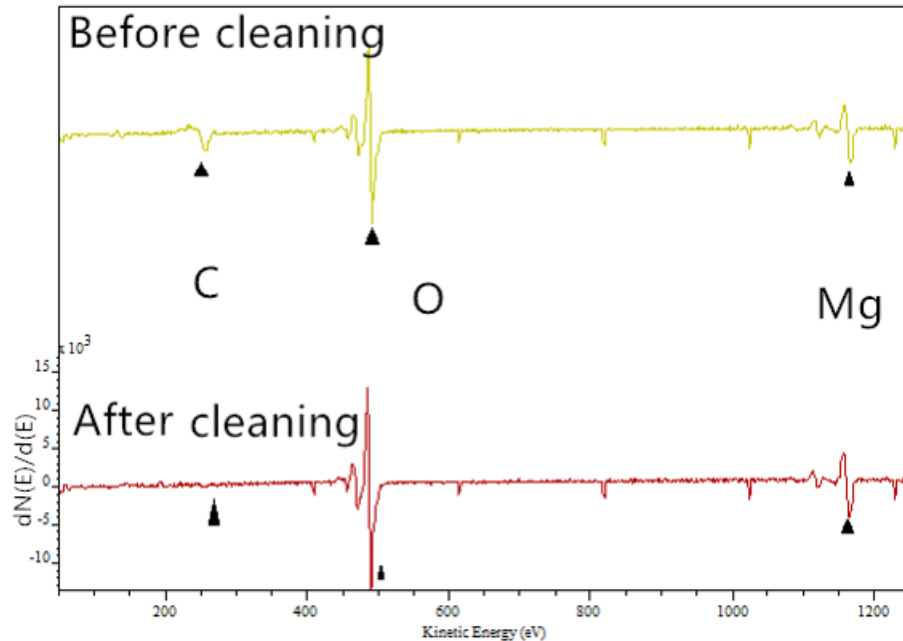


Figure 2. 1. AES spectra of a MgO (100) single crystal surface before and after cleaning.

2.2.2 Preparation of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

TiO₂ (110) single crystal substrates (Sigma-Aldrich, 10×10×0.5 mm, >99.9% purity, trace metal basis) were cleaned by a combination of sputtering and annealing at 950K for 5 min until a clean and ordered TiO₂ (110) surface was obtained by AES. For sputtering, a 1.5 keV Ar⁺ beam was used, with a total current collected on the sample holder of 0.2 μA. To maintain the clean surface, a brief 10 min sputtering at 300K followed by 5 min annealing at 950 K was used on a daily basis.

A surface is considered to be as clean when the carbon atomic percentage is lower than 1%. Figure 2.2 shows the AES spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface before and after cleaning. The green line is before cleaning and the atomic percentage of carbon

is 9.5%. After cycles of sputtering and annealing, the atomic percentage of carbon is reduced to 0%.

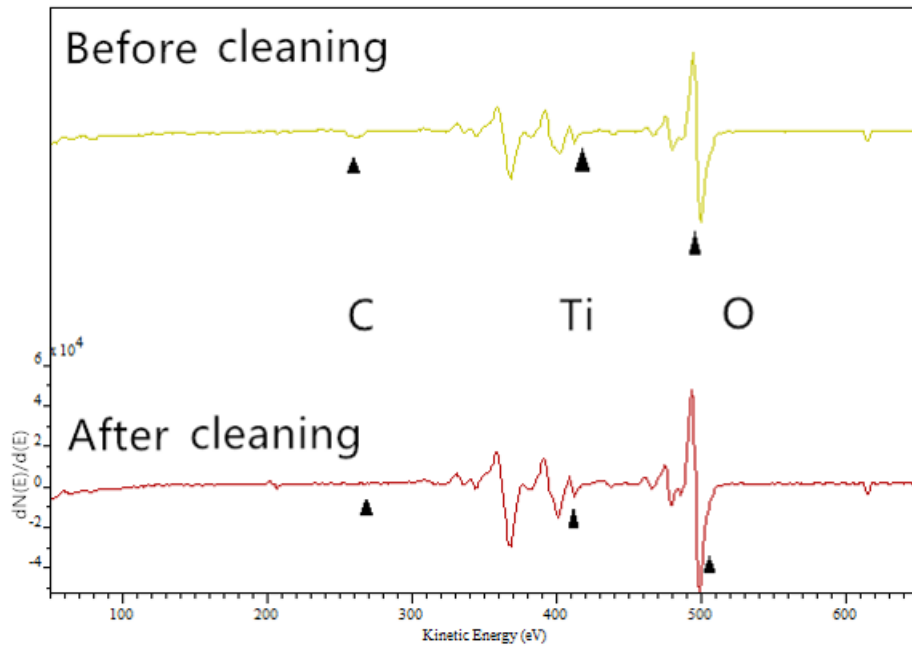


Figure 2. 2. Auger spectra of a TiO_2 (110) single crystal surface before and after cleaning.

2.2.3 CO_2 exposures

Carbon dioxide (Lindweld, research grade – bone dry, >99.995% purity) was used as received and the purity of the gas was checked in-situ by mass spectrometry. The reagent gas is admitted to the chamber through an effusive doser directed onto the front face of the crystal for various periods of time. The actual pressure at the sample is higher than the chamber pressure as measured by the ion gauge and since these pressures should be proportional to one another, the chamber pressure is used as a measure of the overall sample exposure. The exposures (uncorrected for ion gauge sensitivity for carbon

dioxide) are reported in Langmuir ($1 \text{ L} = 10^{-6} \text{ torr} \cdot \text{sec}$). The details of exposures will be discussed in Section 2.3.

2.3 Thermal surface reactions of CO₂ with oxide surfaces

2.3.1 Experimental setup

A MgO (100) single crystal or TiO₂ (110) single crystal was mounted onto a Ta support plate (1mm thickness and of the same dimensions as the crystal). The Ta support was cooled and resistively heated by two Ta wires spot-welded to its backside. The sample temperature could be controlled between 77 and 1073 K and was measured by a chromel-alumel thermocouple spot-welded to the back of the sample plate. Figure 2.3 is the top view of UHV chamber. Prior to experiments, after MgO or TiO₂ single crystals surfaces mounted to the Ta plate, the UHV chamber was thoroughly degassed by pumping at a temperature of 160 °C for 72-96 hrs.

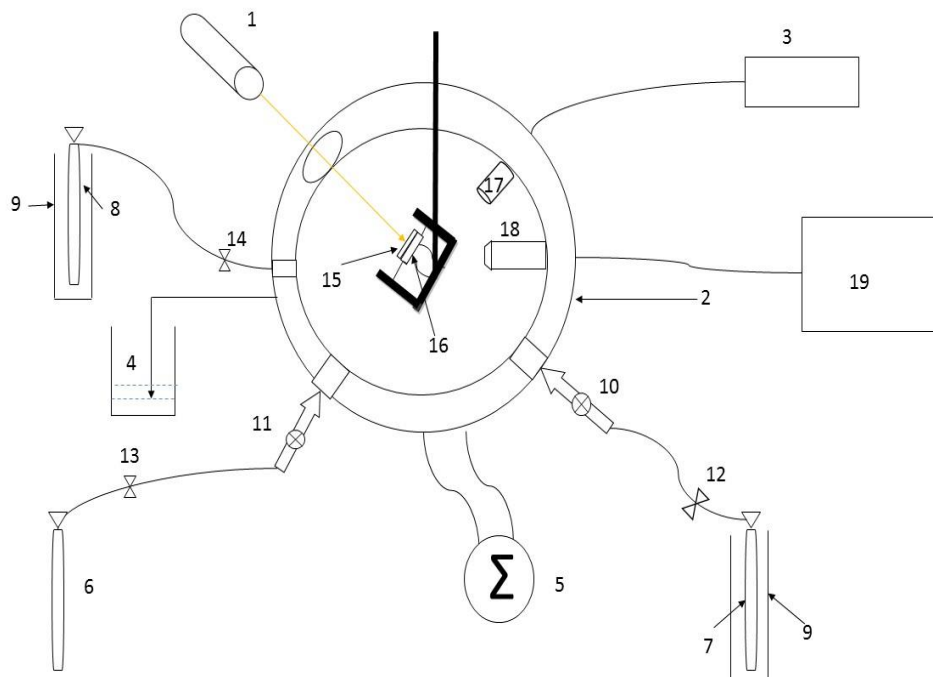


Figure 2. 3. Schematic drawing of UHV chamber setup (top view). (1) Hg UV light; (2) stainless steel chamber; (3) pump; (4) water cooling system; (5) heater w/temp. control; (6) CO₂ gas cylinder; (7) O₂ gas cylinder; (8) Ar gas cylinder; (9) liquid N₂ cooling tank ; (10)-(14) valves; (15) sample; (16) Ta holder; (17) X-ray source (18) electron energy analyzer; (19) computer.

All the reactions of CO₂ on both MgO and TiO₂ single crystal surfaces were performed in the ultra-high vacuum chamber, and AES and XPS were used to examine the surface chemistry.

2.3.2 Thermal reactions of CO₂ with MgO (100) and TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

2.3.2.1 CO₂ reactions with MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

AES and XPS scans of the MgO (100) single crystal clean surface were taken and then the surface was exposed to different exposures of CO₂ (500-5000 Langmuir). The CO₂ was introduced into the chamber via a leak valve connected to a high purity CO₂ cylinder. The temperature of the sample was held constant during the exposure (550-650 °C). After each exposure at a given temperature, AES and XPS spectra were obtained from the surface at room temperature. A schematic of CO₂ reacting with MgO is shown in Figure 2.4.

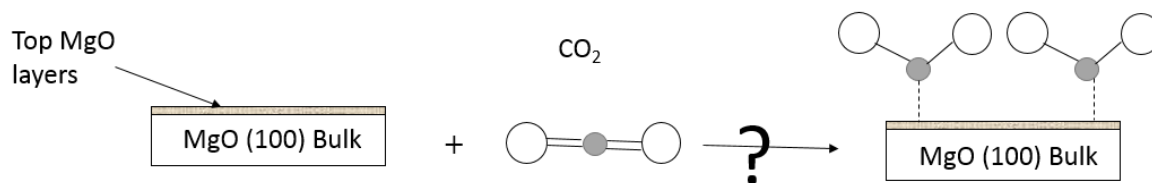


Figure 2. 4. Schematic reaction of CO₂ with a MgO (100) single crystal surface.

2.3.2.2 CO₂ reactions with TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

AES and XPS scans were taken of the TiO₂ (110) surface after cleaning and then exposed to different exposures (500-5000 Langmuir) of CO₂. The temperature of the sample was held constant during the exposure (200-700 °C). After each exposure at a

given temperature, AES and XPS spectra were taken from the surface at room temperature. Figure 2.5 shows the schematic of this reaction.

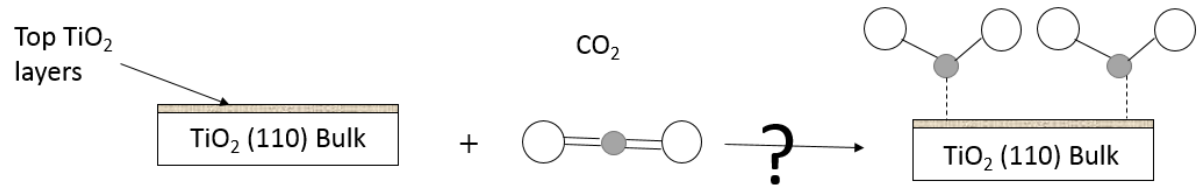


Figure 2. 5. Schematic reaction of CO₂ with a TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface.

2.4 Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with MgO (100) and TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

The photocatalytic surface reactions of CO₂ with MgO and TiO₂ were compared with thermally induced surface reactions. The differences and surface species were spectroscopically identified by using XPS and AES techniques. Examination of the surfaces after UV light irradiation could demonstrate the role it played in surface chemical reactions.

2.4.1 Setup of instrumentation

The UV lamp was warmed up about 10 mins before using it. The schematic setup of the apparatus has been shown in Figure 2.3. The UV lamp source was set along the sample surface normal, and the sample surface was irradiated by UV light through a sapphire window mounted on the UHV chamber.

2.4.2 Photocatalysis of CO₂ on MgO (100) and TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

2.4.2.1 Photocatalytic reaction of CO₂ on MgO (100) single crystal surface

The clean surface of MgO (100) surface was first prepared and then exposed to different exposures of CO₂ (500-5000 Langmuir) at room temperature. After the exposure, an AES spectrum and set of XPS scans were obtained. After the measurements, the sample was exposed UV irradiation for 10 minutes and AES and XPS scans were taken again. Figure 2.6 shows the schematic of this reaction process.

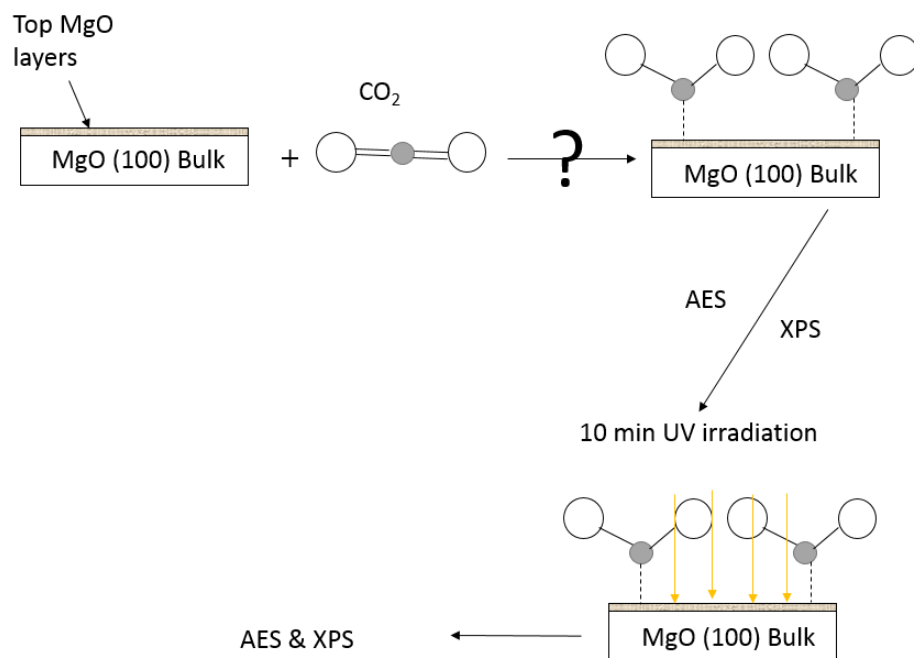


Figure 2. 6. Schematic of photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with MgO (100) single crystal surfaces.

2.4.2.2 Photocatalytic reaction of CO₂ on TiO₂ (110) single crystal surfaces

The TiO₂ (110) single crystal was cleaned and then exposed to different amounts of CO₂ (500-5000 Langmuir) at room temperature. After the exposure, the sample was exposed under 10 or 20 min UV light irradiation. AES and XPS scans of the surface were made after the irradiation. Figure 2.7 shows the schematic of the reactions.

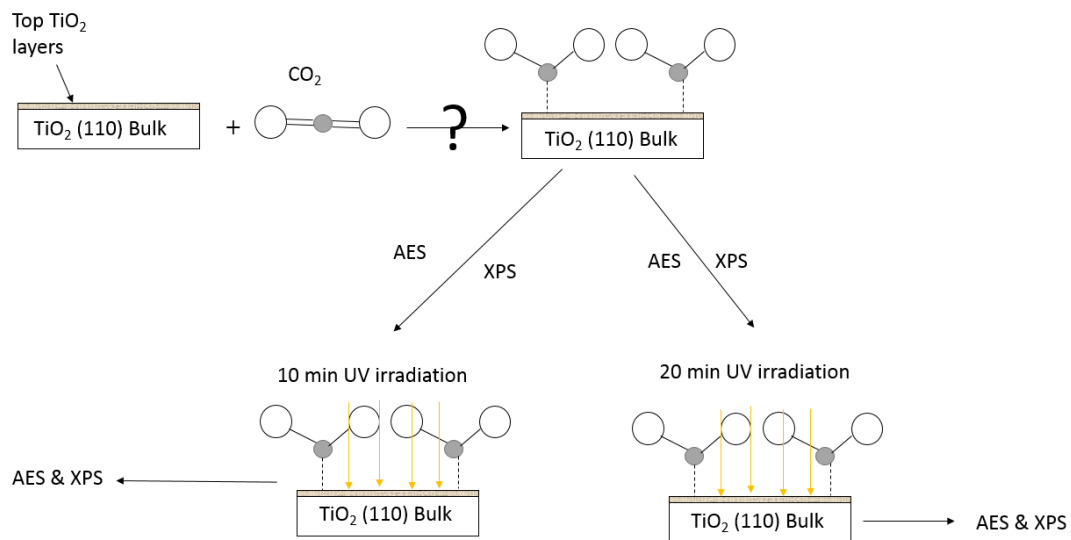


Figure 2. 7. Schematic of photocatalytic reactions CO₂ with TiO₂ (110) with UV irradiation.

In another set of experiments, the clean surface of TiO₂ (110) was exposed UV irradiation during the CO₂ exposure (500-5000 Langmuir) at room temperature. After the lamp and CO₂ were turned off, AES and XPS scans were taken. Figure 2.8 shows the schematic of this reaction.

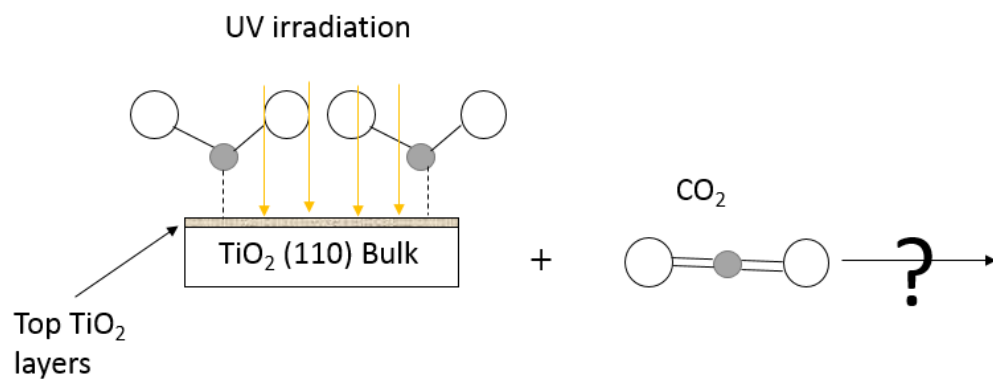


Figure 2. 8. Schematic of photocatalytic reaction CO₂ with TiO₂ (110) during UV irradiation.

2.5 Characterization of samples

Before each experiment, the MgO (100) and TiO₂ (110) single crystal were cleaned and surface cleanness was verified by Auger electron spectroscopy (AES) and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS). Then after each experiment involving CO₂ exposure and/or UV irradiation of the surfaces, AES and XPS scans were taken. By comparing the scans before and after exposures of CO₂ and /or UV light, the differences could be observed as to whether there were any reactions of CO₂ with both single crystal surfaces.

2.5.1 AES analysis of single crystal surfaces

2.5.1.1 Data collection

AES scans were performed using a 3 keV electron beam. A kinetic energy range of 50-650 eV for TiO₂ and 50-1250 eV for MgO was used. The spectra were measured in 1 eV intervals with a dwell time of 25 milliseconds and were averaged over 5 scans. The differentiated AES spectrum of MgO or TiO₂ versus kinetic energy was saved by AugerScan data acquisition software.

2.5.1.2 Qualitative analysis of spectrum

Each element has its unique AES transition energy. AES can be used to identify elements in the surface region as long as the atom has three or more electrons. The correct identification of major Auger peaks can be accomplished by referring to standard Auger spectra¹. There might be some peak shifts of a few eV due to the chemical bonding. Only the prominent peaks of these elements will be observed in the spectrum.

Figure 2.9 is an Auger spectrum of the MgO (100) surface. The derivative of the signal intensity with respect to the energy is plotted versus kinetic energy. This is done as the Auger signal is slowly changing on a broad background. The carbon transition is observed about 270 eV, the oxygen transition can be detected around 503 eV, and the Mg transition can be measured near 1174 eV.

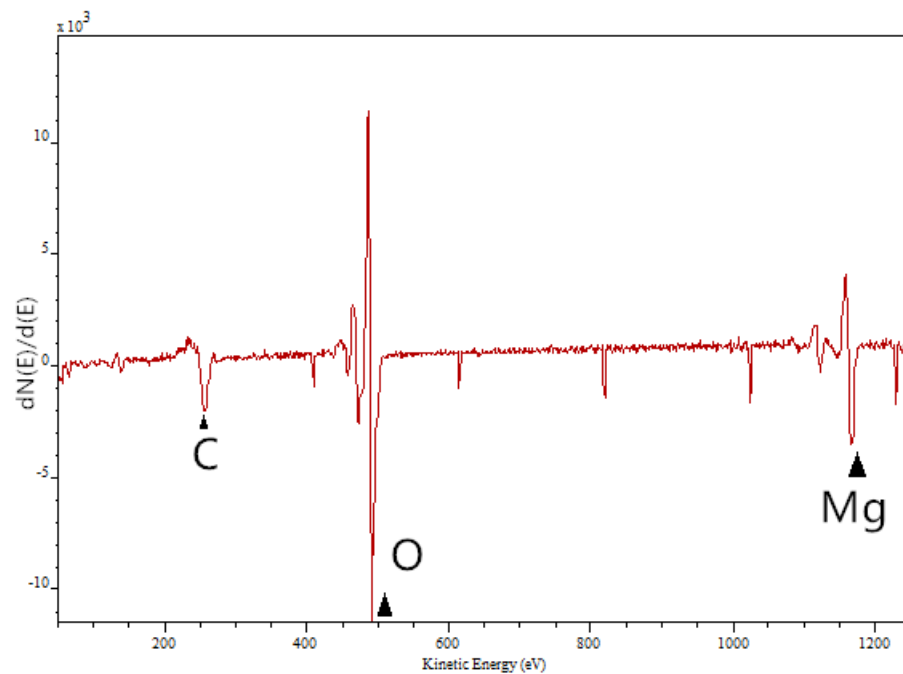


Figure 2. 9. Auger spectrum of the MgO (100) surface.

2.5.1.3 Quantitative analysis of spectrum

The peak-to-peak height of an Auger transition can be used to determine the relative atomic concentration of a given element. The Auger peak intensity of an element can be correlated to its atomic concentration using the equation 2.1

$$x_A \% = \frac{I_A/S_A}{\sum_i^p I_i/S_i} \times 100 \quad (2.1)$$

Where x_A is atomic percentage of element A,

I_i is the peak to peak intensity of a given element, and

S_i is the respective sensitivity factors for an element.

2.5.2 XPS analysis of single crystal surfaces

2.5.2.1 Data collection

XPS scans were performed using a VSW TA-10 X-ray source with a twin anode (Mg/Al). The Al K_{α} photon energy was 1486.6 eV. A wide scan which concluding photoemission features from all components and detailed scans of each individual elemental regions were collected with pass energies of 100 eV and 50 eV, respectively. For the wide scan, the spectra were measured using 1 eV intervals with a dwell time of 75 milliseconds and were averaged over 20 scans. These settings result in adequate resolution ($\Delta E = 2\text{eV}$) for elemental identification and produce very high signal intensities, minimizing data acquisition time and maximizing elemental detectability². For detailed scans, the spectra were measured in 0.05 eV intervals with a dwell time of 75 milliseconds and were averaged for 50 scans for each elemental region.

2.5.2.2 Qualitative analysis of a spectrum

The data was saved in a binary format by the AugerScan data acquisition software and then processed in Casa XPS software³. Wide scan spectra can be used to identify all

of elements present in the sample surface. Detailed spectra can be used to show the information of each element, including its energy position, area, and peak FWHM (full width at half maximum) for each XPS transition. Peaks were fit using a GL30 (Gaussian 70%-Lorentzian 30%) line shape. An XPS spectrum is obtained by measuring the kinetic energy of the ejected photoelectrons versus intensity.

2.5.2.3 Quantitative analysis of spectra

Quantitative analysis of the spectra was also carried out. A complete XPS spectrum of a material includes peaks that can be associated with different elements except H and He present in the outer 10 nm of this material. The area under these peaks is proportional to the amount of each element present. Therefore, the atomic percentage of each element detected by the XPS could be calculated by the peak areas and correcting them for the appropriated instrumental factors. The common equation used for this calculation is shown in equation 2.2:

$$\%n_i = \left(\frac{I_{ij}}{\sigma_{ij}KE^{0.7}} \right) / \sum \left(\frac{I_{ij}}{\sigma_{ij}KE^{0.7}} \right) \quad (2.2)$$

Where n_i is the atomic percentage of element I,

I_{ij} is the area of peak j from element I,

σ_{ij} is the photoionization cross-section of peak j from element i, and

KE is the kinetic energy of peak j from element i.

The main elements studied included carbon, oxygen, and magnesium for MgO (100). Carbon, oxygen, and titanium are the main elements examined for TiO₂ (110). By measuring the change in elemental concentration, we can determine the extent of adsorption of CO₂ on the surfaces.

2.6 References

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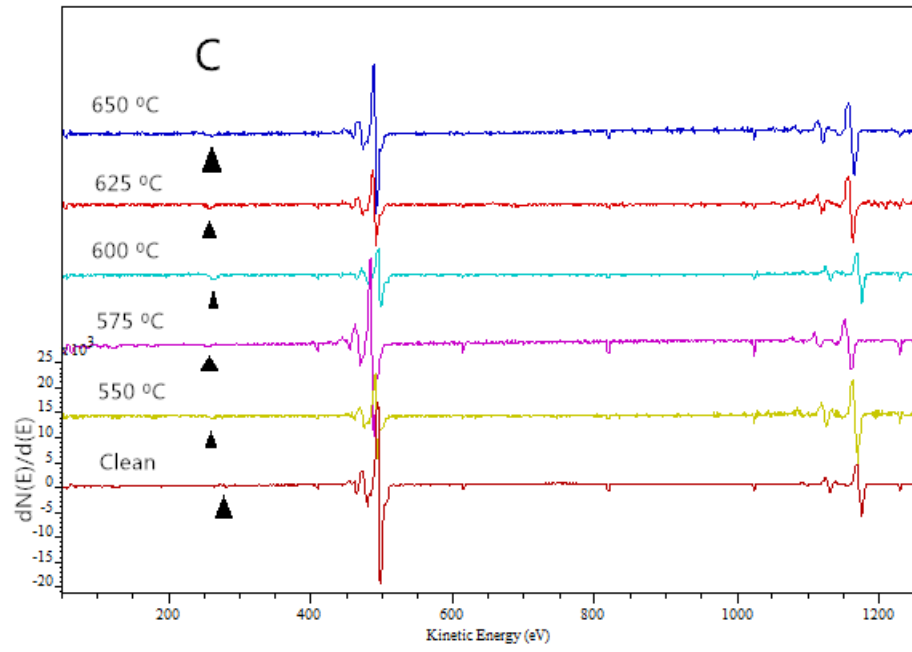
Chapter 3 Results

3.1 Thermal reactions of CO₂ on MgO (100) single crystal surface

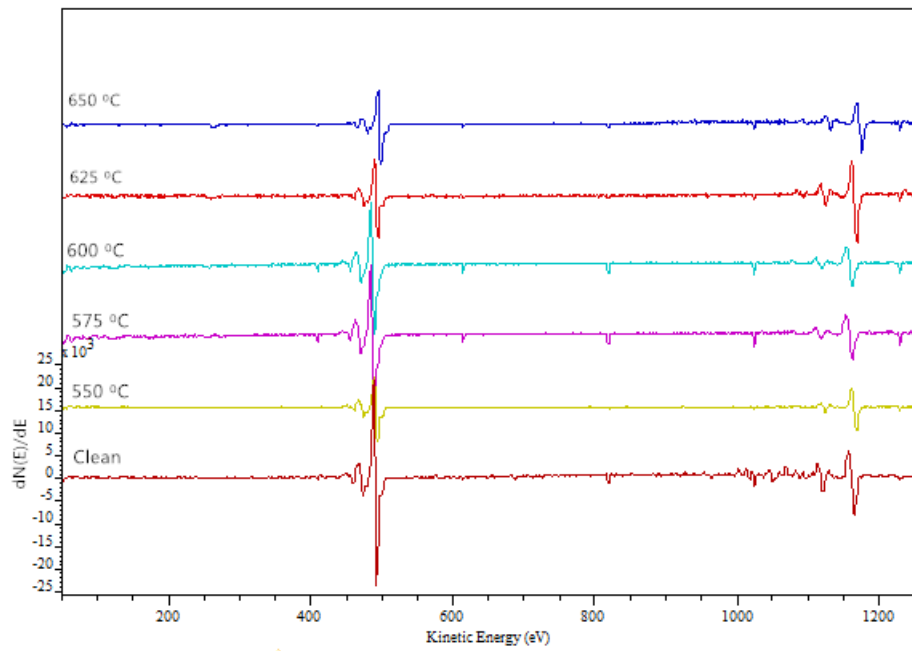
Auger electron spectroscopy and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy are used to examine the clean surface and modified surface. Details of methods were introduced in Chapter 2. All of analysis in this chapter are based on AES and XPS results.

3.1.1 AES spectra of MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

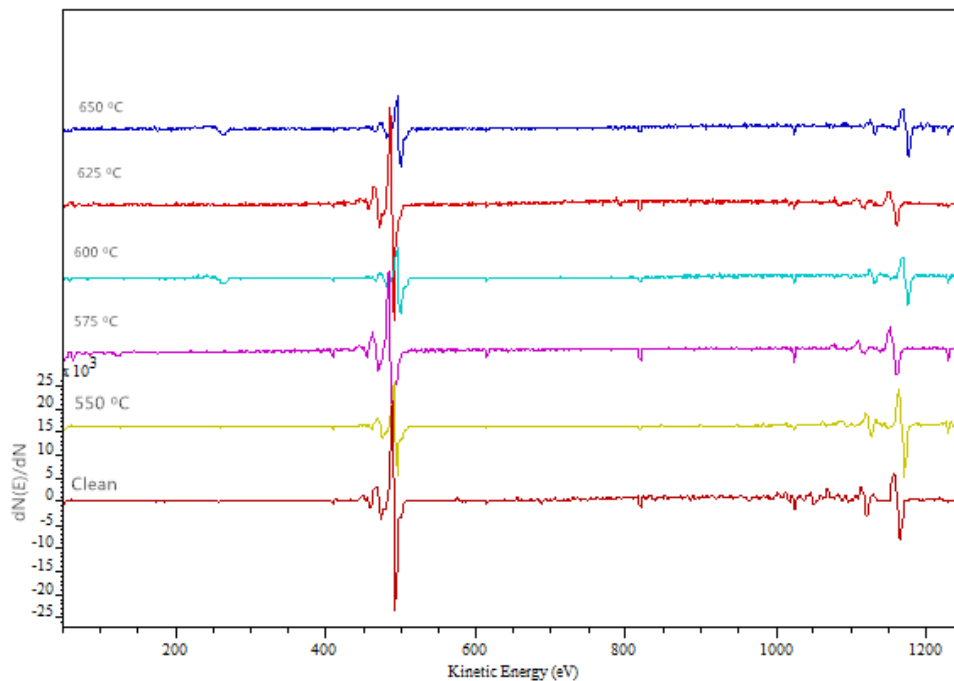
Figure 3.1 shows respective AES results for exposing MgO (100) to CO₂ (500-5000 L) at different substrate temperatures. The MgO (100) substrate is held at a constant temperature during each exposure. In each set of spectra, the very bottom line is a clean surface spectrum. Then after exposures, any carbon deposited on the surface was detected by AES at a kinetic energy around 270 eV. However, some carbon may be present on the clean surface of MgO (100) before a CO₂ exposure since we used a 1% cut off for carbon cleanliness. The amount of carbon deposited changed from 0.8% to 2.4% as the temperature changed from 550 to 650 °C and exposure changed from 500 to 5000 L.



(a) 500 L CO₂



(b) 1000 L CO₂



(c) 5000 L CO₂

Figure 3. 1. AES spectra obtained after exposing MgO to 500-5000L CO₂ at various surface temperatures. (a) 500 L; (b) 1000 L; (c) 5000L.

Table 3.1 summarizes a series of experiments examining the influence of MgO surface temperatures and CO₂ exposures. After each exposure, the sample was cooled to room temperature and the Auger spectrum was taken. The amount of carbon at the surface is determined from the peak-to-peak intensities of a given elemental transition in the spectrum, along with the appropriate sensitivity factors. Details of the quantitative calculations were illustrated in Chapter 2. If any carbon was present on the surface before the exposure, then its concentration is subtracted from the amount present after exposure.

These results are shown in Table 3.1. And the atomic percentages are averages of at least triplicate measurements on different MgO (100) crystal surfaces.

Table 3. 1. Change in the atomic surface concentration of carbon in thermal reactions of CO₂ with MgO (100) single crystal surfaces measured by AES.

| Temperature (°C) | AES | | |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 500L | 1000L | 5000L |
| 550 | 0.8±0.1% | 1.6±0.2% | 0.8±0.1% |
| 575 | 1.4±0.6% | 1.4±0.7% | 1.4±0.7% |
| 600 | 0.5±0.1% | 0.9±0.1% | 1.7±0.6% |
| 625 | 0.8±0.5% | 1.4±0.5% | 1.0±0.2% |
| 650 | 1.8±0.5% | 1.6±0.7% | 2.4±0.9% |

In order to see the changes of carbon percentage with substrate temperatures and exposures more clearly, the data in Table 3.1 are presented as Figure 3.2.

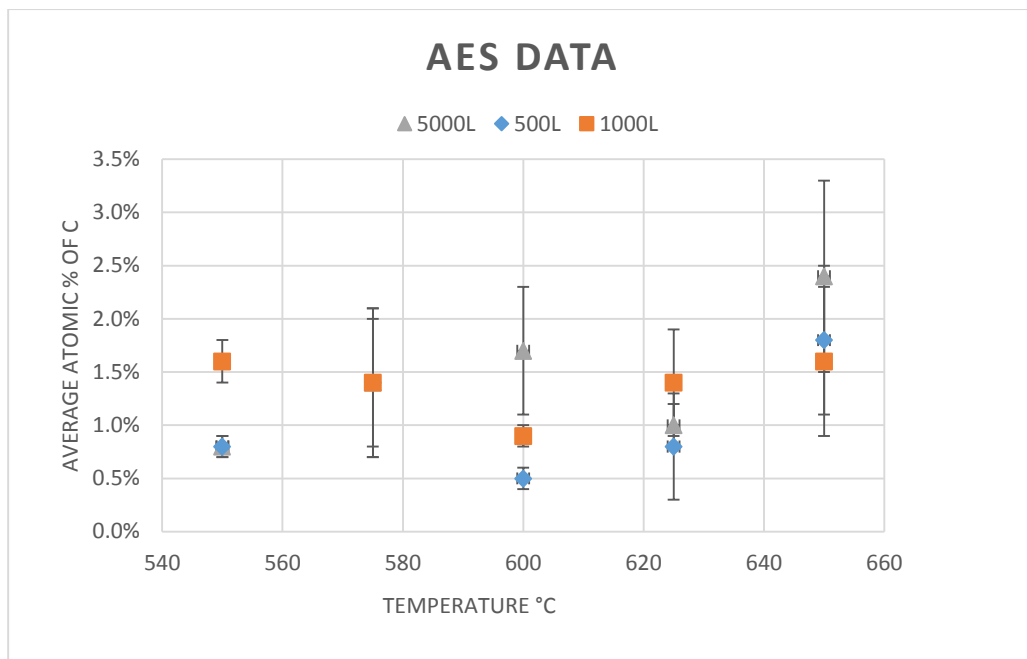


Figure 3. 2. Change in the atomic surface concentrations of carbon on MgO (100) in thermal reactions.

3.1.2 Analysis of wide XPS spectrum

X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy can present complete information about bound electron states in the material by measuring the kinetic energy distribution of photoelectrons emitted from the specimen material excited by an X-ray source.

An XPS full spectrum of MgO (100) surface is shown in Figure 3.3. Intense and sharp Mg peaks can be observed, as well as smaller carbon and oxygen peaks. The weak carbon peak (binding energy (B.E) of ~284 eV) corresponds to the C (1s) transition and indicates that a low amount of amorphous carbon is adsorbed on the surface. The carbon can be removed by O₂ heating at 973 K¹. Except for this peak, no other impurities are observed, proving that the sample is composed of magnesium and oxygen. In the range of 304.4-308.8 eV are the Mg KLL Auger emission peaks which are attributed to the +2

oxidation state magnesium. And also, O KLL Auger emission peaks at a binding energy range of 992-1102 eV are obtained as well.

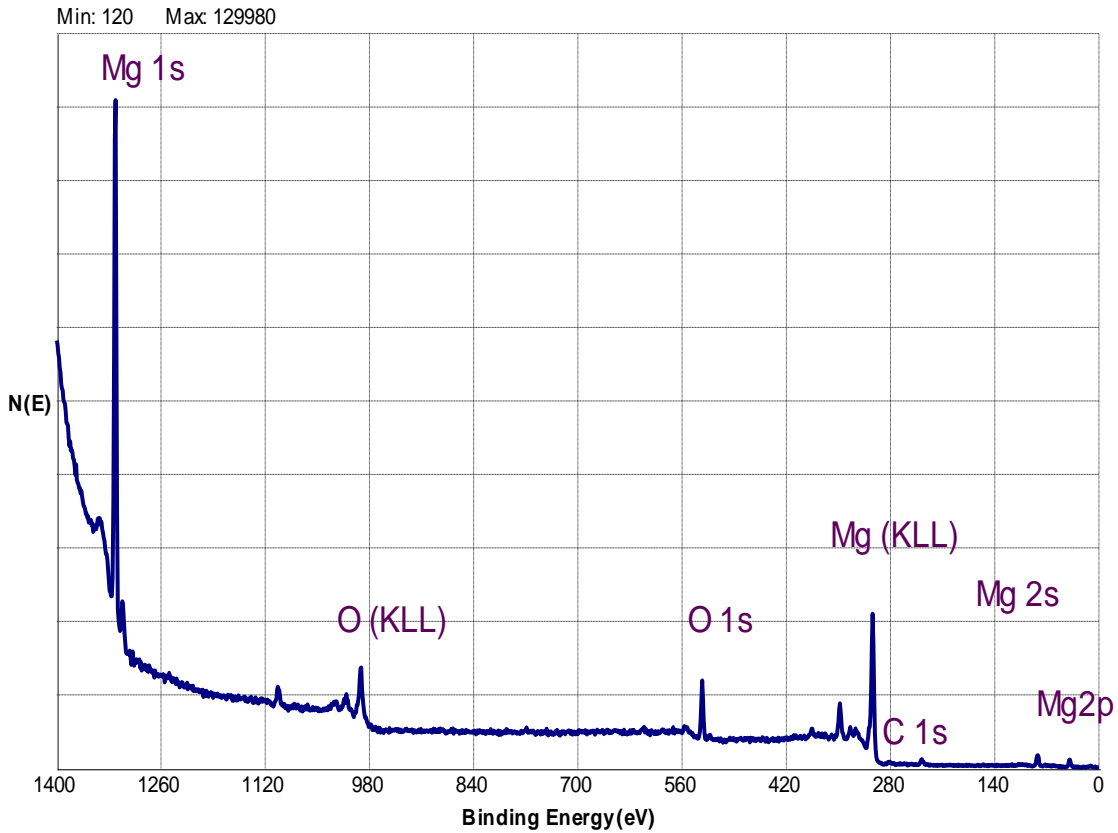


Figure 3. 3. A full XPS spectrum of MgO (100) surface.

3.1.3 Analysis of detailed XPS spectra

Detail spectra are used for chemical state identification, and quantitative analysis of minor components. Peak deconvolution and other mathematical manipulations of the data is most often performed with detailed scans. Peaks from any species thought to be radiation-sensitive or transient should be run first, such as C (1s). An analyzer pass energy of 50 eV ($\Delta E=0.5$ eV) is adequate for routine detail scans.

3.1.3.1 C (1s)

Detailed C (1s) spectra of MgO surface before (red) and after (green) 5000 L CO₂ exposure at 650 °C are shown in Figure 3.4. After the exposure, the carbon peak area increased slightly (see also Table 3.3). AES data also proved an increase carbon concentration in Section 3.1.1. One broad peak is observed with a binding energy of 286.6 eV matching literature values for carbonates, refer to Table 3.2. However, most previous studies were performed at room temperature or lower. Our results show that with higher surfaces temperatures and “high” exposures, carbon can still be adsorbed on the MgO surface, although the exact structure of carbon is still unclear. The XPS line width is rather broad and might be due to overlapping structures related to chemical shifts or different adsorption sites on the surface.

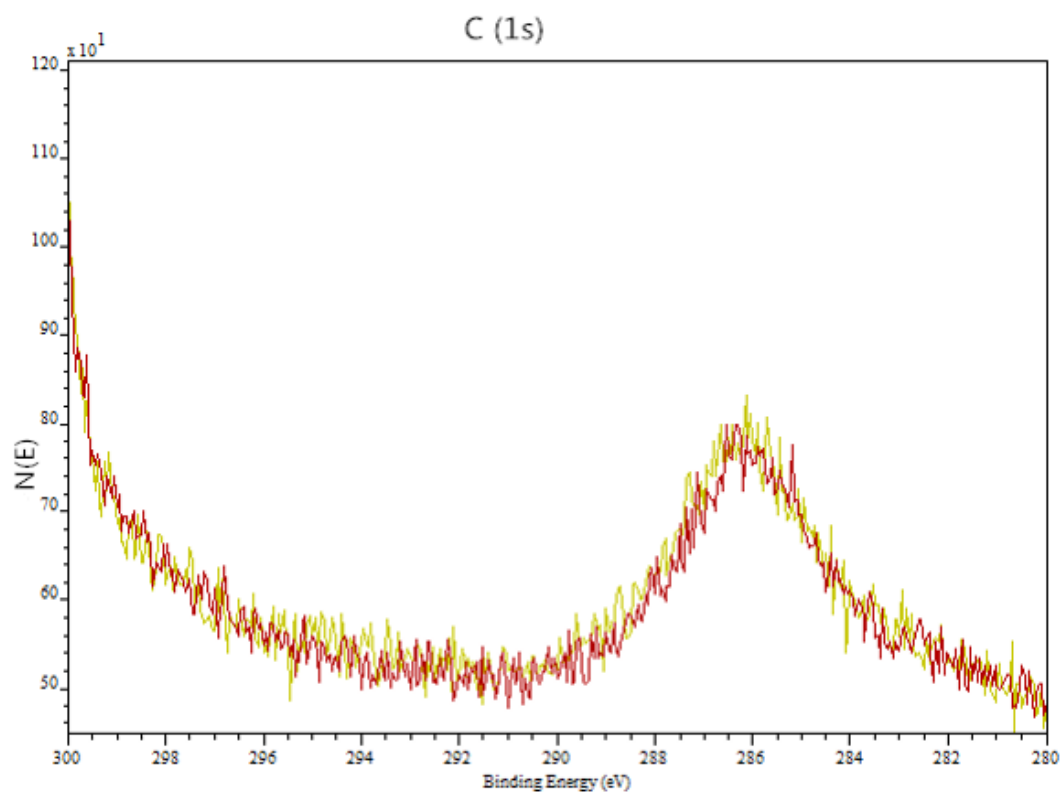


Figure 3. 4. C (1s) spectra of MgO (100) surface before exposure (red) and after a 5000 L CO_2 exposure (green) at a surface temperature of 650°C .

Table 3. 2. XPS C (1s) lines seen for adsorbed CO_2 .

| System | C (1s)-XPS line position (eV) | Carbonate | Ref. |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| CO_2 -MgO (001) | 290.0 | × | 2 |
| CO_2 -MgO (111) | 290.0 | × | 2 |
| CO_2 -MgO (001) | 286.6 | × | This work |

With increasing exposures of CO₂ (500-5000L) to the surface at a constant temperature (650 °C), the C (1s) peak area changed as observed in Figure 3.5. The red line is MgO surface after exposure to 500 L CO₂, the green line is after a 1000 L CO₂ exposure, and the purple line is obtained after a 5000 L CO₂. The atomic percentages of carbon changed along with the changing conditions are summarized in Table 3.3. At lower exposures, the carbon concentration did not change much. However, at the highest exposures of CO₂ (5000L), the amount of carbon deposited increased by 1.2%.

Table 3.4 lists the changes in carbon concentration on MgO (100) surfaces with different CO₂ exposures (500-5000L) and temperatures (550-650 °C). The reported values are averages of at least triplicate measurements on different MgO (100) single crystal surfaces.

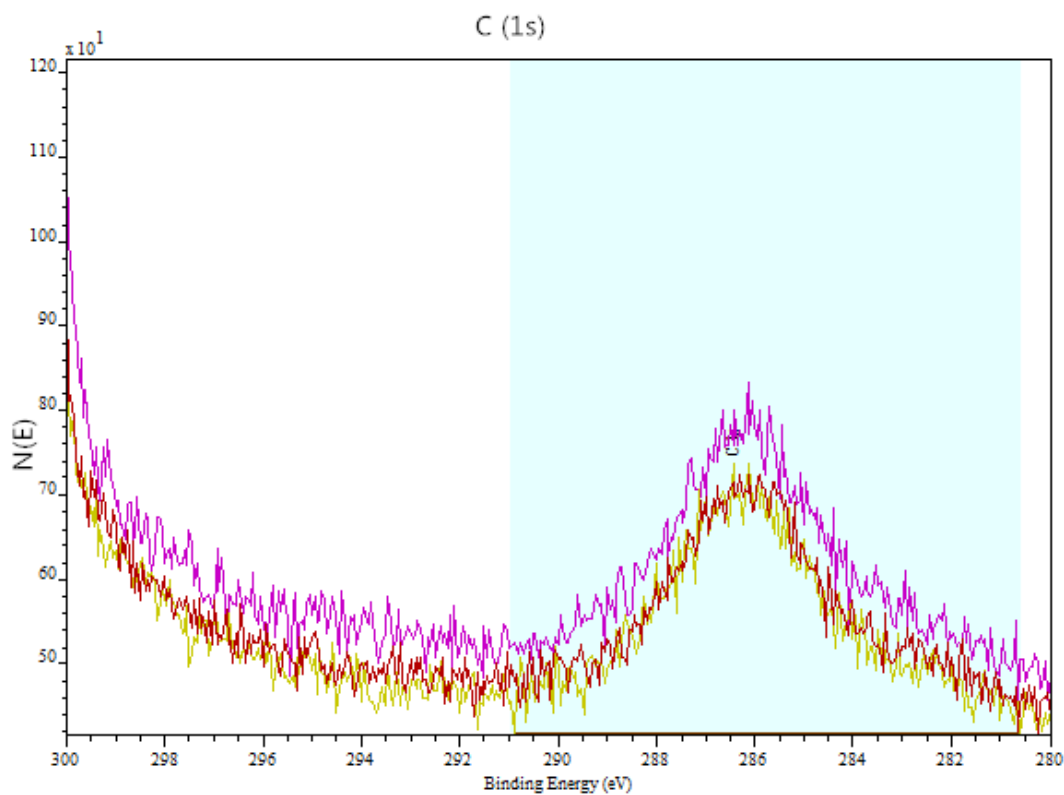


Figure 3. 5. C (1s) region of MgO (100) surface with different CO₂ exposures at 650 °C. The CO₂ exposures are 500 L (red), 1000 L (green), and 5000 L (purple).

Table 3. 3. Carbon concentration on MgO (100) after CO₂ exposures as measured by XPS

| System | Temp. (°C) | CO ₂ Exposure (L) | Peak position (eV) | Peak area | Atomic percentage |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| “clean” surface | | | 286.6 | 1079.3 | 7.0% |
| 1 | 650 | 500 | 286.6 | 1012.8 | 7.6% |
| 2 | 650 | 1000 | 286.6 | 1096.8 | 7.9% |
| 3 | 650 | 5000 | 286.6 | 1169.7 | 8.2% |

Table 3. 4. Average carbon surface concentrations on MgO (100) single crystal surfaces resulting from thermal reactions with CO₂ as measured by XPS

| Temp. (°C) | XPS | | |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 500L | 1000L | 5000L |
| 550 | 1.0±0.5% | 0.6±0.1% | 0.5±0.3% |
| 575 | 0.5±0.3% | 0.3±0.1% | 0.4±0.1% |
| 600 | 0.8±0.3% | 0.7±0.1% | 0.7±0.1% |
| 625 | 0.6±0.2% | 0.5±0.1% | 0.7±0.1% |
| 650 | 1.0±0.4% | 0.8±0.3% | 1.3±0.3% |

In order to see the change in carbon concentration with substrate temperature and exposure more clearly, the data in Table 3.4 are presented in Figure 3.6. There is a

general trend that with increasing temperature and exposure, the carbon concentration increases. The temperature /exposure pair of 650 °C and 5000 L of CO₂ yielded the highest concentration of carbon. Little change in surface carbon concentrations is observed between 500 L and 1000 L exposures.

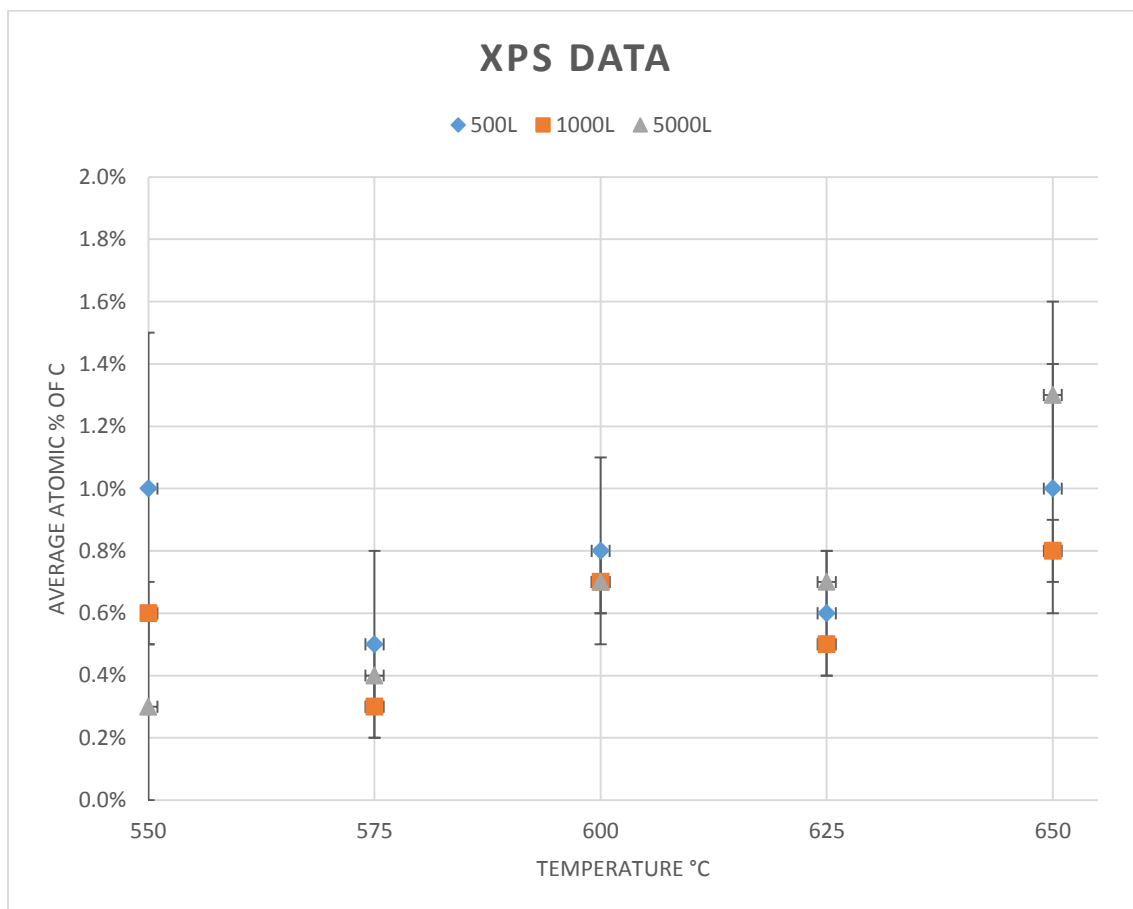


Figure 3. 6. Change in the atomic surface concentrations of carbon on MgO (100).

3.1.3.2 O (1s)

Detailed spectra of the O (1s) region of MgO (100) surfaces are shown in Figure 3.7. At 534 eV binding energy, there is only single peak. The red line is before exposure,

and the green line is after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure at 650 °C. The two spectra are essentially the same.

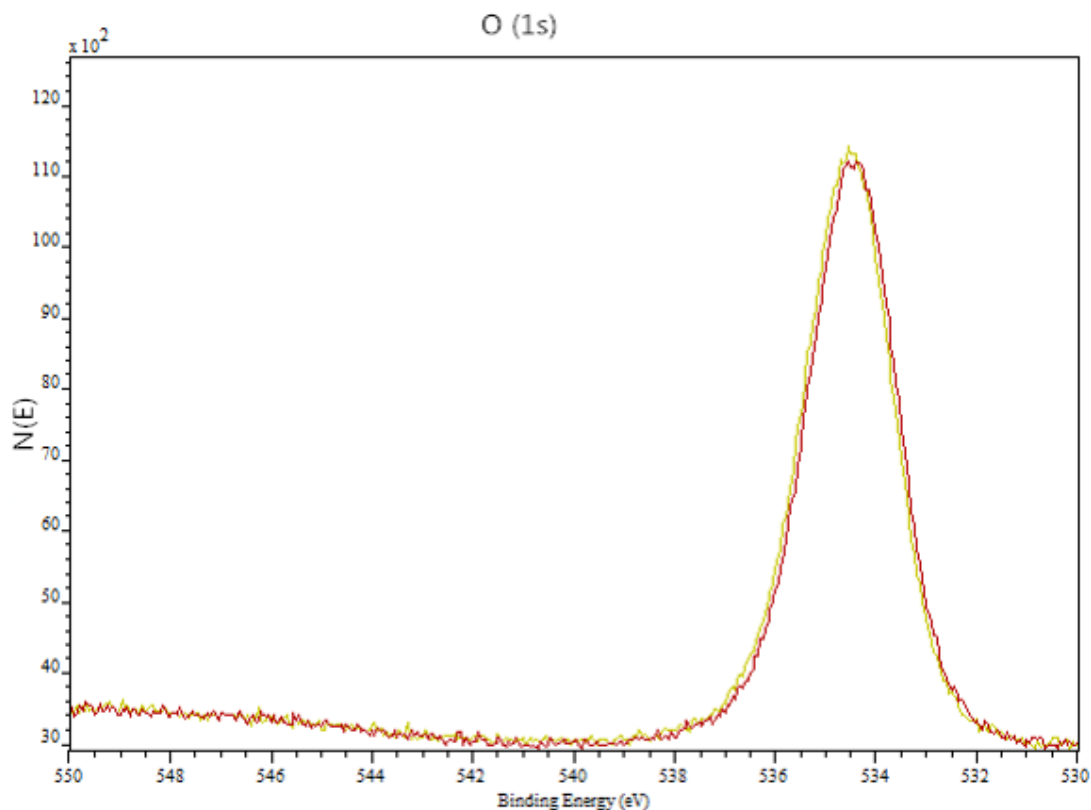


Figure 3. 7. O (1s) XPS spectra of MgO (100) surface before (red) and after a 5000 L (green) exposure of CO₂ at a surface temperature of 650 °C.

Different exposures of CO₂ at 650 °C temperature results in little change to the O (1s) peak area. Figure 3. shows the O (1s) region after three different exposures. The red line is the O (1s) spectrum taken after a 500 L CO₂ exposure, the green line is from a 1000 L CO₂ exposure, and the purple line is after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure. The O (1s) spectra for the 500 L and 1000 L exposures almost the same. However, there is an

increase in the O (1s) area after the 5000 L exposure. The quantitative results for these exposures are summarized in Table 3.5. The concentration of oxygen on the surface increased from 45.6% to 49.2% when increasing the exposure to 5000 L.

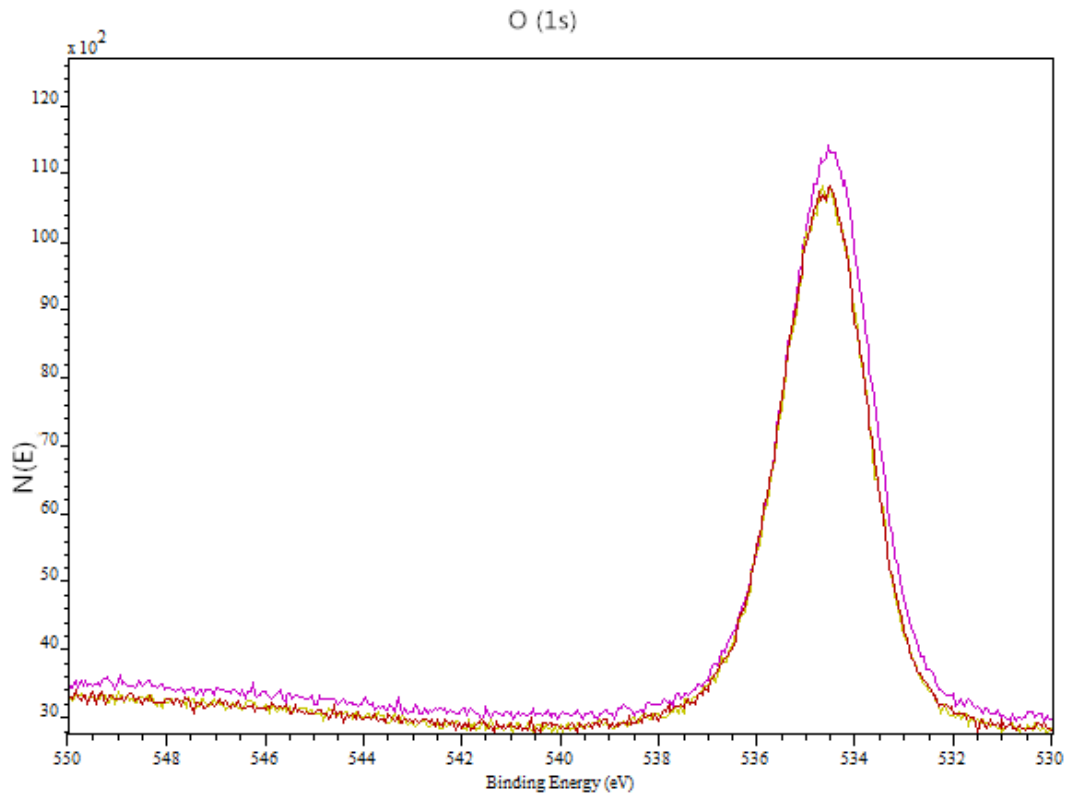


Figure 3. 8. O (1s) region of MgO (100) with different CO₂ exposures at 650 °C. The exposures are 500 L (red), 1000 L (green) and 5000 L (purple).

Table 3. 5. O (1s) atomic percentage on MgO (100) as a function of CO₂ exposure at a surface temperature of 650 °C.

| System | Temp. (°C) | CO ₂ Exposure (L) | Peak position (eV) | Peak area | Atomic percentage |
|--------|------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| 1 | 650 | 500 | 534.5 | 16313 | 45.6% |
| 2 | 650 | 1000 | 534.5 | 16373 | 45.8% |
| 3 | 650 | 5000 | 534.5 | 17596 | 49.2% |

The probe depths of XPS and AES are different, even though both are surface-sensitive techniques. AES measures its signal over a greater depth as shown schematically in Figure 3.9. The atomic concentration of oxygen measured by both techniques is listed in Table 3.6.

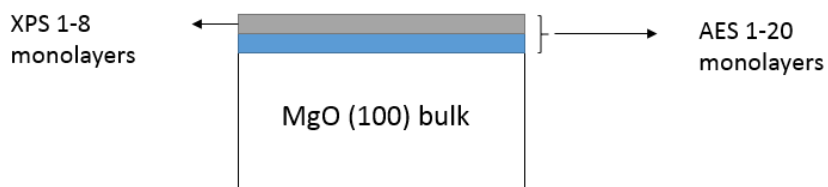


Figure 3. 9. Schematic of AES and XPS measurement depth.

The oxygen atomic concentration of CO₂-exposed surface is decreased in XPS data compared to that of clean surface which can be seen in Table 3.6. This shows that

after the exposure and higher temperatures, there is some oxygen decomposed from the very near surface region compared to deeper layers.

3.1.3.3 Mg (2p)

Detailed spectra of Mg (2p) regions are shown in Figure 3.11. The red line is Mg (2p) XPS spectrum of the MgO (100) surface before exposure and the green line is after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure at 650 °C. The spectra in this figure show that a chemical shift of the 2p level occurs at higher B.E (54.3 eV) due to Mg²⁺, leading to broadening of linewidth³. The literature value of Mg (2p) level for metallic Mg is 49.75 eV. The shift to 54.3 eV binding energy is consistent with a 2+ oxidation state for Mg.

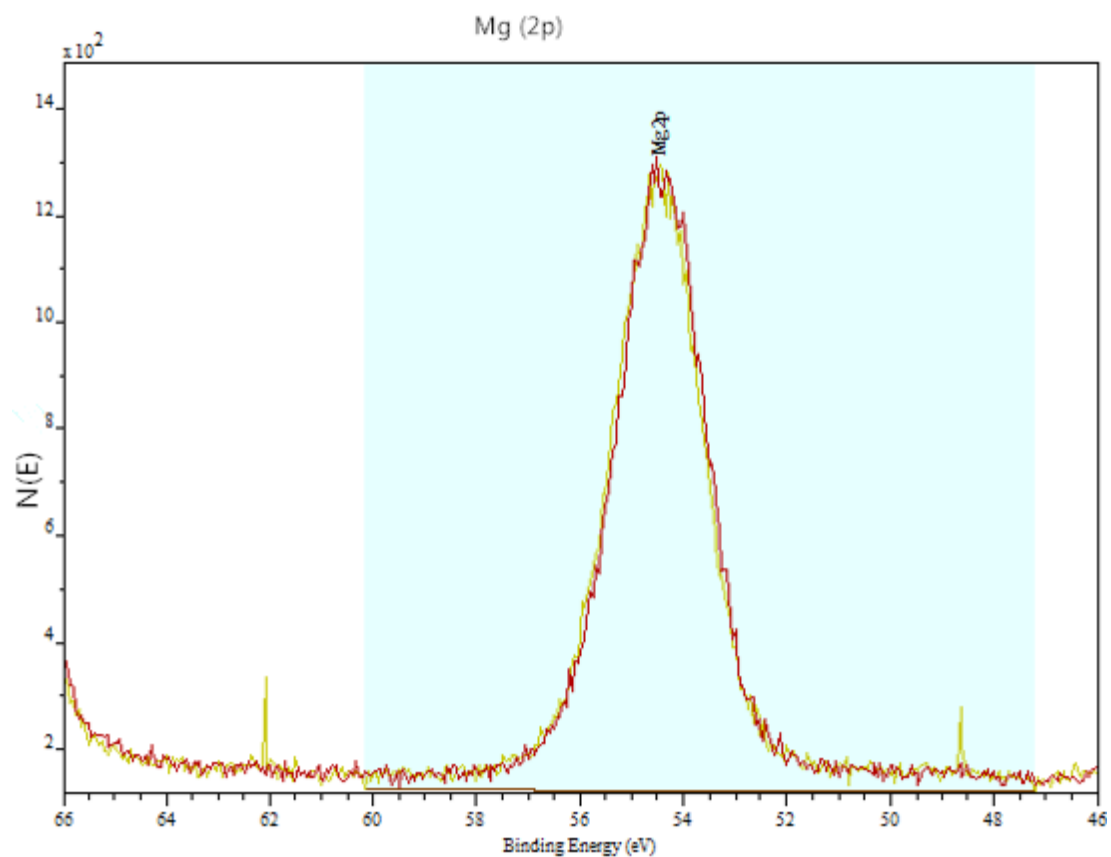


Figure 3. 10. Mg (2p) region before exposure to CO₂ (red) and after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure (green) at a surface temperature of 650 °C.

The atomic concentrations of C (1s), O (1s) and Mg (2p) of MgO surface before and after each exposure at 550 °C are listed in Table 3.7. For each temperature and exposure, there is a small increase in carbon. The ratio between oxygen and magnesium is near 1:1 for both measurements in XPS and AES. These results indicate that after exposures, the surface is still stoichiometric.

Table 3. 6. Elemental concentrations on MgO (100) as measured by XPS and AES after exposure to CO₂ at a surface temperature of 550 °C.

| | | | XPS | | | AES | | |
|---------|------------|---------------------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|
| | Temp. (°C) | CO ₂ (L) | C% | O% | Mg% | C% | O% | Mg% |
| "clean" | | | 5.8 | 52.5 | 41.7 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
| 1 | 550 | 500 | 7.4 | 49.7 | 42.9 | 0.8 | 43.5 | 55.7 |
| 2 | 550 | 1000 | 7.0 | 49.9 | 43.1 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 3 | 550 | 5000 | 6.1 | 50.2 | 43.8 | 0.8 | 43.5 | 55.7 |

3.2 Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ on MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

Due to the wide band gap of magnesium oxide (7.8 eV⁴), UV light ($\lambda \sim 290$ nm, 4.3 eV) will not have sufficient energy to photo-excite electrons across the band gap in MgO. However, the UV light might be able to alter the structure of MgO to create a Mg-rich surface which could supply more adsorption sites for CO₂.

3.2.1 Analysis of AES spectra

AES spectra are shown in Figure 3.12. The red spectrum was taken from clean surface, and at 273 eV kinetic energy, there is no carbon present. The green spectrum was taken after a 1000 L CO₂ exposure at room temperature. After the exposure, carbon was observed, and the atomic percentage is 1.7%. The purple spectrum was taken after a 10 minutes UV irradiation, and the green spectrum was obtained after another 10 minutes of UV irradiation. After UV irradiation, the concentration of carbon did not change. All the carbon concentrations are listed in Table 3.8. Supplementary information about the detailed data is shown in Appendix B.

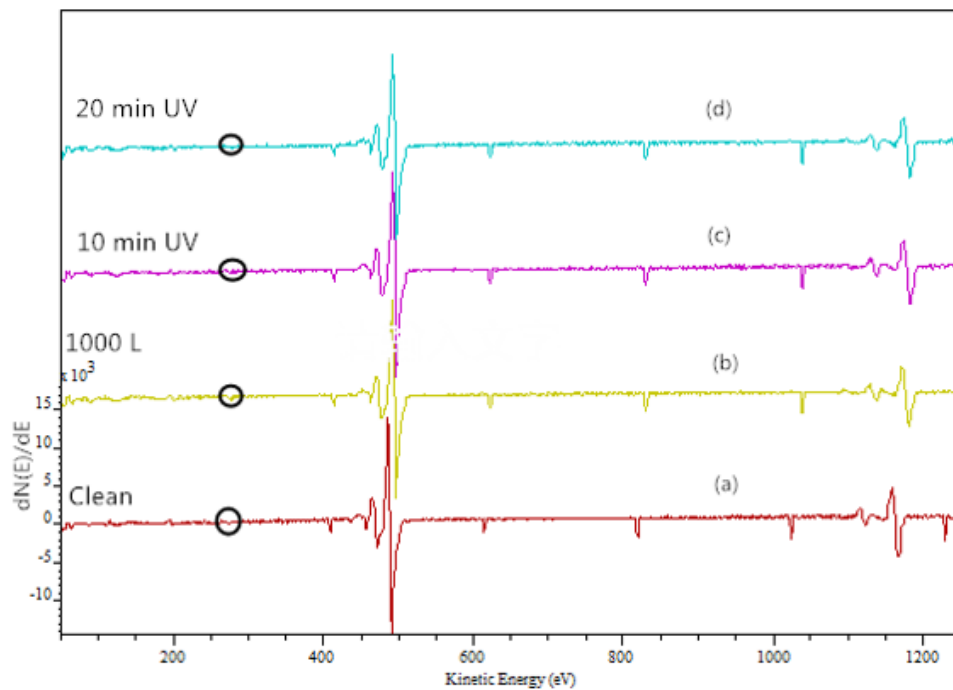


Figure 3. 11. AES spectra of MgO (100). Spectra (a) is of the clean surface, (b) spectrum after a 1000 L CO₂ exposure at room temperature. (c) spectrum after a 10 min UV exposure, and (d) spectrum after 20 min of UV exposure.

Table 3. 7. Atomic percentage of elements from MgO (100) as measured by AES

| Experiment | AES | | |
|------------------------|-----|------|------|
| | C% | O% | Mg% |
| Clean | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 1000 L CO ₂ | 1.7 | 42.8 | 55.5 |
| 10 min UV | 1.7 | 42.5 | 55.8 |
| 20 min UV | 1.7 | 41.9 | 56.4 |

3.2.2 Analysis of detailed XPS spectra

3.2.2.1 C (1s)

Detailed spectra of the C (1s) region from MgO (100) are shown in Figure 3.13 a. The red spectrum was taken from the clean surface. There was some carbon on the “clean” surface which was not detected by AES. The green spectrum was taken after a 1000 L CO₂ exposure at room temperature. There is a small increase in the peak intensity. In Figure 3.13 b, the red spectrum is the same one shown in Figure 3.13 a for the 1000 L CO₂ exposure, and the green spectrum is the spectrum obtained after a 10 minutes UV irradiation. The peak shape and intensity did not change at all. The calculated atomic percentages of carbon are listed in Table 3.9.

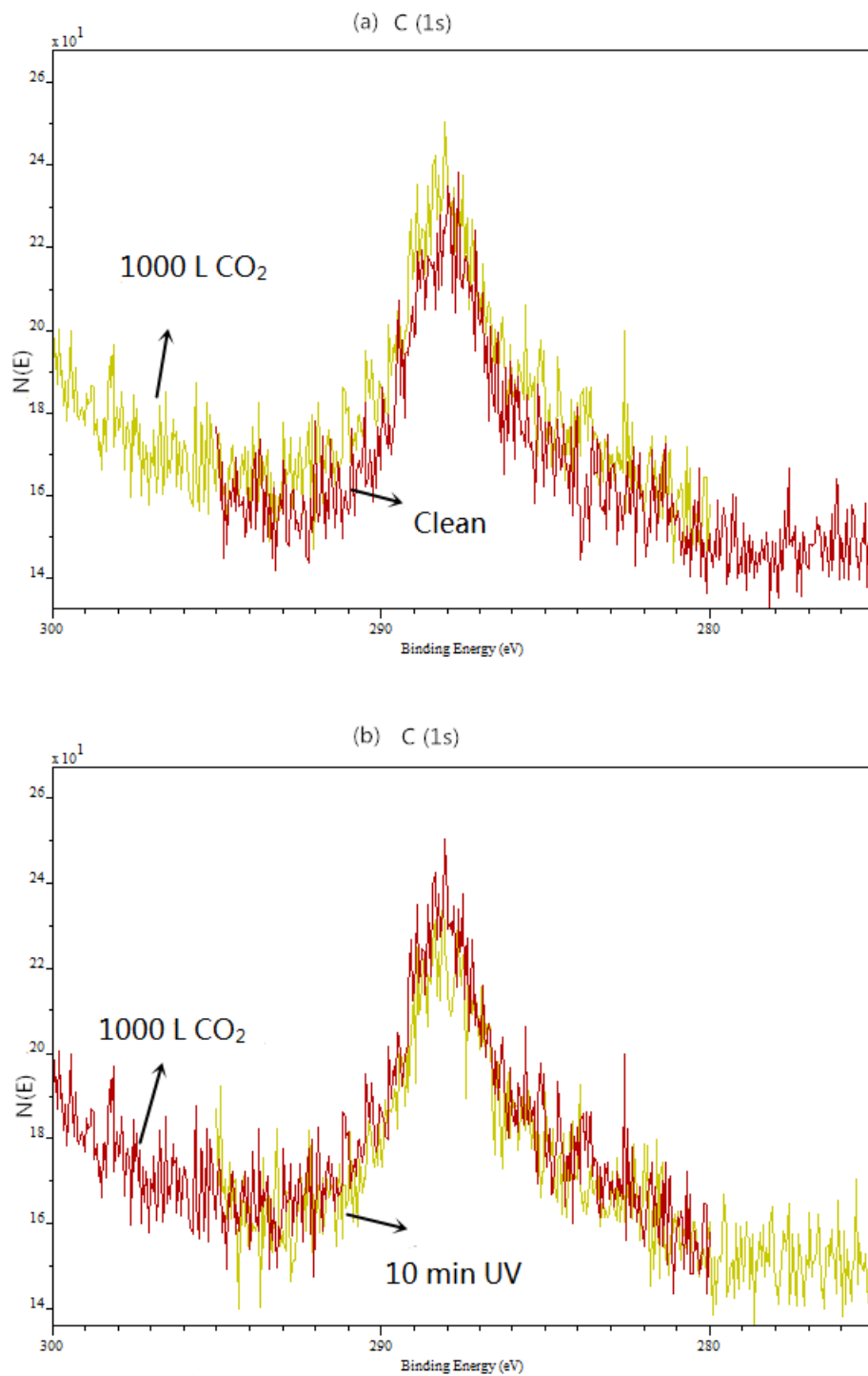


Figure 3. 12. C (1s) spectra of MgO (100) in photocatalytic reactions. (a) Clean surface (red) vs. 1000 L CO₂ exposed surface (green) at room temperature; (b) 1000 L CO₂ exposed surface (red) vs. 10 min UV irradiation (green).

3.2.2.2 Mg (2p) and O (1s)

Detailed spectra of the O (1s) and Mg (2p) regions are shown in Figure 3.14. In each part of the figure, there are three different colored lines. The red line is the spectrum taken from the surface after a 1000 L CO₂ exposure at room temperature, the green line is the spectrum taken after 10 minutes of UV irradiation, and the purple line is the spectrum taken after another 10 minutes of UV irradiation. All of three spectra matched with each other well. There is no big change in surface concentrations between each experiment. The concentrations of O and Mg were presented in Table 3.10.

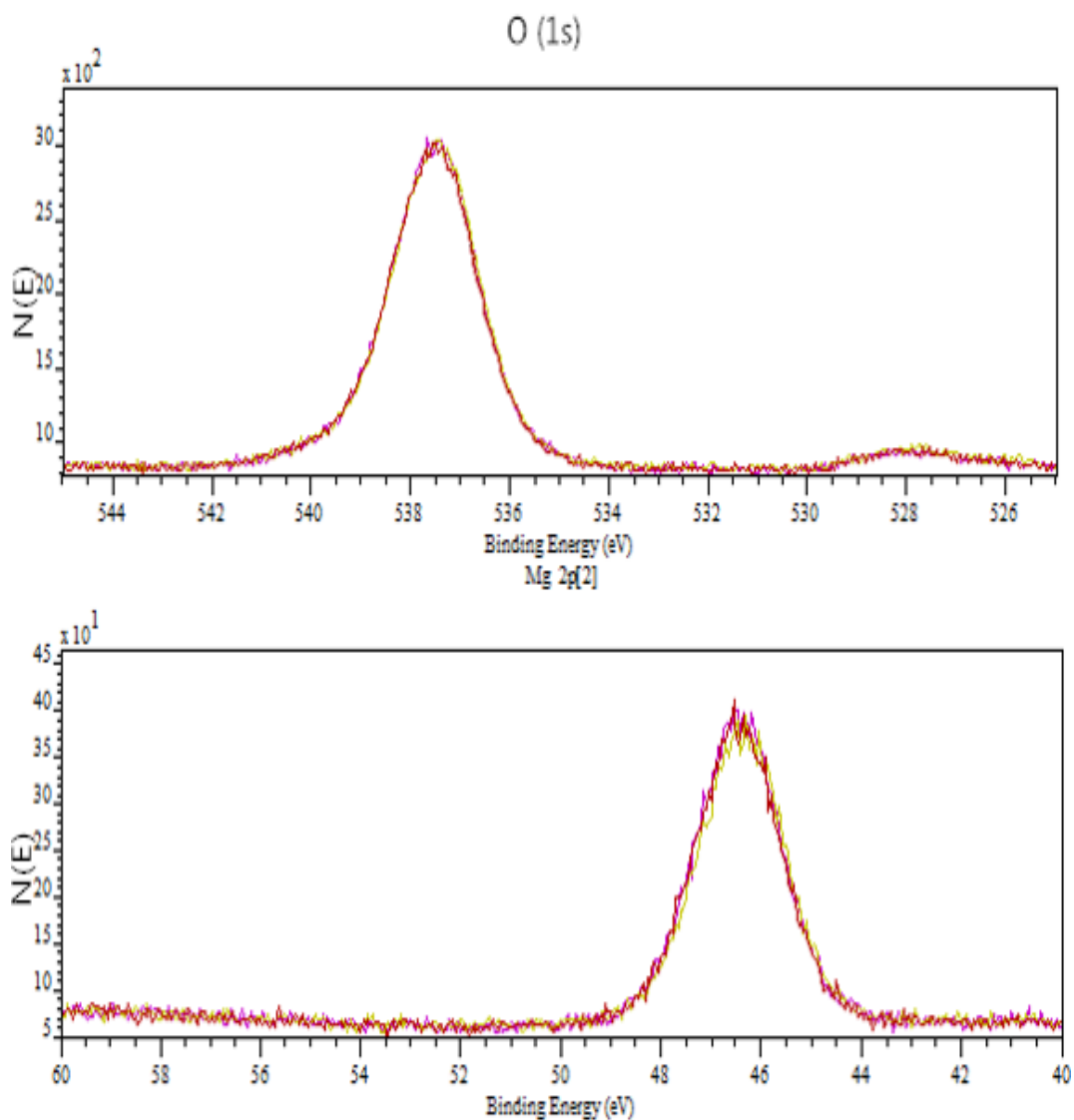


Figure 3. 13. O (1s) and Mg (2p) regions of MgO (100) single crystal surface in photocatalytic reactions. Spectrum taken from the surface after a 1000 L CO_2 exposure at room temperature (red), spectrum taken after 10 minutes UV irradiation (green) and the spectrum taken after another 10 minutes UV irradiation (purple).

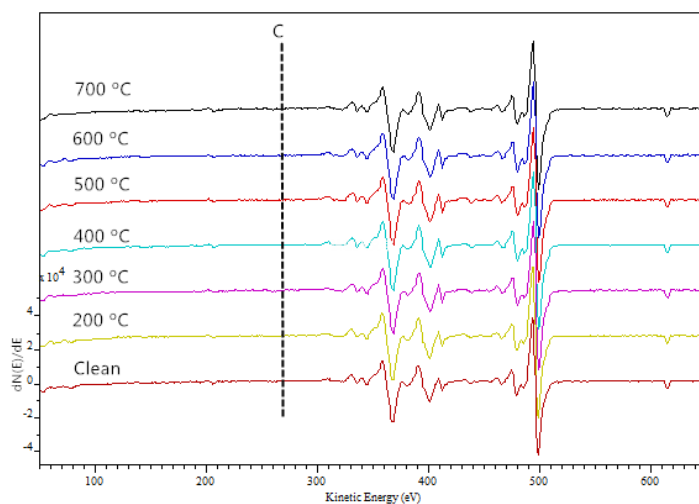
Table 3. 8. Atomic percentage of all elements on MgO (100) single crystal surface measured by XPS in photocatalytic reactions.

| Experiment | XPS | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|
| | C% | O% | Mg% |
| Clean | 6.7 | 47.1 | 46.2 |
| 5000 L | 7.4 | 47.5 | 45.1 |
| 10 min UV | 7.4 | 48.2 | 44.4 |
| 20 min UV | 7.4 | 48.8 | 44.8 |

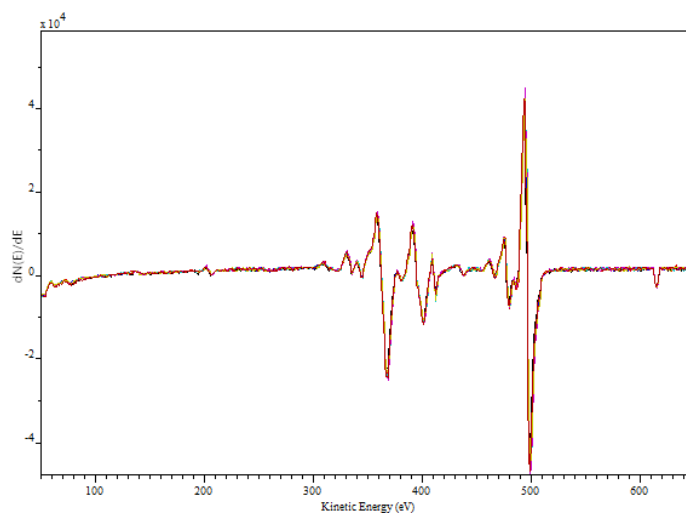
3.3 Thermal reactions of CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature

3.3.1 Analysis of AES spectra

AES spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface are shown in Figure 3.15. The surface was exposed to a 5000 L CO₂ with different surface temperatures from (200-700 °C). The Ti peak is measured at 418 eV kinetic energy and oxygen peak is located at 503 eV. The carbon peak, if present, would be observed at 272 eV. However, no carbon deposition is observed. When all seven spectra are overlaid with one another (shown in Figure 3.15b), it was more obvious that no carbon is deposited. These results demonstrate that there is no thermal reaction of CO₂ with the TiO₂ surface. The XPS data presented in Section 3.3.3 are also consistent with this point.



(a)



(b)

Figure 3. 14. AES spectra of TiO₂ (110). (a) Seven colored AES spectra: clean spectrum (dark red), spectrum taken after given the surface a 5000 L CO₂ exposure at a constant surface temperature of 200 °C (yellow), 300 °C (purple), 400 °C (blue), 500 °C (red), 600 °C (dark blue) and 700 °C (black). (b) Overlap of all seven colored spectra.

The TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface was exposed to various exposure of CO₂ (500-5000) and different surface temperatures. The carbon concentration measured by AES for these reactions are summarized in Table 3.10. If any carbon was present on the surface before the exposure (<1%), then its concentration was subtracted from the amount present after an exposure. These results are shown in Table and the percentages are averages of at least triplicate measurements on the same TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface. The surface concentrations of carbon are essentially unchanged with exposure indicating that there is thermal reaction of CO₂ with TiO₂ (110).

Table 3. 9. C atomic concentrations on TiO₂ (110) measured by AES for different CO₂ exposures and surface temperatures.

| Temp./Exposures | Atomic % | | |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | 500 L | 1000 L | 5000 L |
| 200 °C | 0.8 ± 0.9 | 0.2 ± 0.4 | 1.5 ± 1.6 |
| 250 °C | n. d.* | 0.1 ± 0.1 | -0.3 ± 0.5 |
| 300 °C | 0.7 ± 1.3 | -0.5 ± 0.8 | n. d. |
| 350 °C | 0.7 ± 1.2 | 0.2 ± 0.4 | 0.5 ± 0.9 |
| 400 °C | 0.6 ± 1.0 | -0.4 ± 0.5 | 0.2 ± 0.4 |
| 450 °C | 0.7 ± 1.3 | 0.5 ± 0.7 | -0.7 ± 1.8 |
| 500 °C | 0.2 ± 0.4 | -0.3 ± 1.2 | 0.2 ± 0.4 |
| 550 °C | 1.6 ± 1.6 | 0.6 ± 0.6 | 1.6 ± 1.6 |
| 600 °C | n. d. | 0.7 ± 1.3 | 0.5 ± 0.8 |
| 650 °C | 0.4 ± 0.8 | -0.2 ± 1.0 | 0.4 ± 0.7 |
| 700 °C | n. d. | -0.4 ± 0.8 | 0.2 ± 0.4 |

*n. d.: not detected.

3.3.2 Analysis of wide XPS spectrum

An XPS wide spectrum of TiO₂ surface is shown in Figure 3.16. The sharp O (1s) peak is observed at 503 eV binding energy (B.E.), the Ti (2p_{1/2}) and (2p_{3/2}) are seen at 464.2 eV and 458.5 eV B.E., respectively. At 284 eV B.E, there is a very weak peak due to carbon contamination. The carbon could be eliminated by cycles of sputtering and annealing. Also, O the KVV Auger electron transition is observed. Only titanium, oxygen, argon and carbon are observed in this wide spectrum.

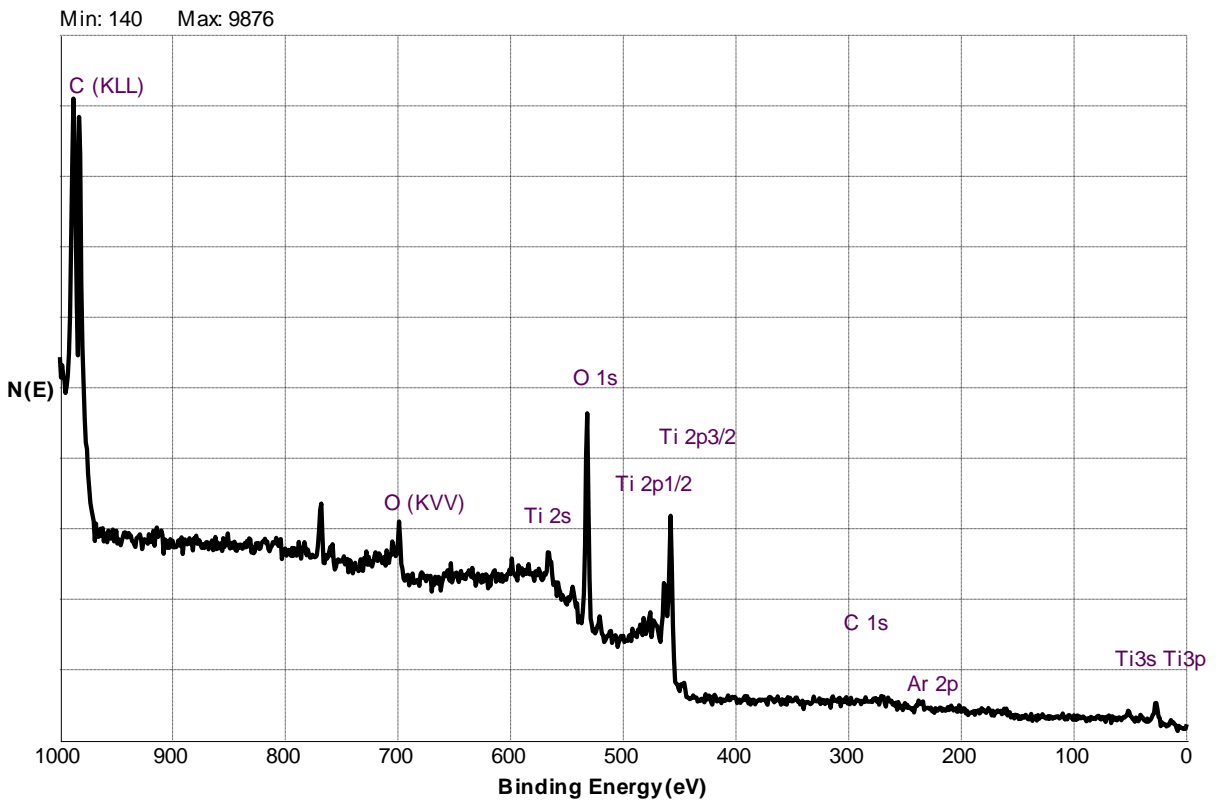


Figure 3. 15. A wide spectrum of TiO₂ (110) surface.

3.3.3 Analysis of detailed XPS spectra

3.3.3.1 C (1s)

C (1s) XPS spectra are shown in Figure 3.17. The red line is clean surface spectrum. The TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface was exposed to different amounts of CO₂ (green - 500 L and purple - 5000 L) at a surface temperature of 200 °C. This result shows that after the CO₂ exposures, there is no carbon adsorbed on the surface under these conditions.

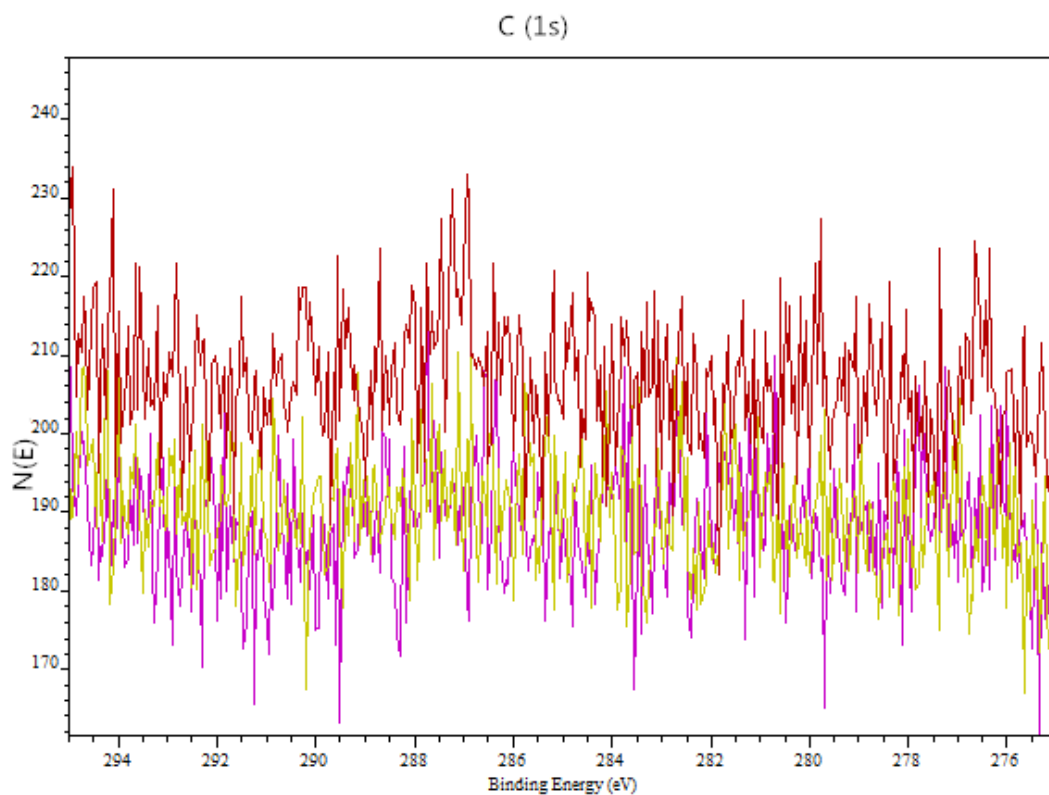


Figure 3. 16. C (1s) spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface in thermal reaction. Clean surface spectrum (red), spectrum was taken after a 500 L CO₂ (green) and 5000 L CO₂ (purple) exposure at a constant surface temperature of 200 °C.

Quantitative determination of carbon concentrations from all the CO₂ exposure and surface temperature experiments are listed in Table 3.11. If any carbon was present on the surface before the exposure (<1%), then its concentration is subtracted from the amount present after a given exposure. The results show that after each pair of exposure and temperature, there is no carbon left on the surface which is consistent with the data results from AES.

Table 3. 10. C (1s) atomic concentrations on TiO₂ (110) measured by XPS as a function of CO₂ exposure and surface temperature.

| Temp./Exposures | Atomic % of carbon | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| | 500 L | 1000 L | 5000 L |
| 200 °C | -0.1 ± 0.2 | -0.1 ± 1.1 | 0.9 ± 0.8 |
| 250 °C | n.d.* | -0.2 ± 0.6 | -0.7 ± 0.6 |
| 300 °C | 0.1 ± 0.1 | n.d | 0.6 ± 1.7 |
| 350 °C | 0.1 ± 0.3 | -0.7 ± 1.2 | n.d. |
| 400 °C | 0.1 ± 0.3 | 1.1 ± 3.0 | -0.1 ± 0.7 |
| 450 °C | n.d. | -0.1 ± 1.1 | 0.4 ± 1.5 |
| 500 °C | -0.2 ± 0.4 | 1.3 ± 0.9 | 0.2 ± 0.8 |
| 550 °C | 0.1 ± 0.1 | 0.6 ± 1.6 | 1.2 ± 1.2 |
| 600 °C | -0.3 ± 0.4 | -0.3 ± 1.2 | 1.0 ± 2.1 |
| 650 °C | -0.1 ± 0.3 | 1.1 ± 2.8 | -0.3 ± 0.5 |
| 700 °C | 0.1 ± 0.3 | -0.6 ± 1.1 | n.d. |

*n.d.: not detected.

3.3.3.2 O (1s)

O (1s) XPS spectra are shown in Figure 3.18. At 531 eV binding energy, there is a single peak due to oxygen. In Figure 3.18, the red line is O (1s) spectrum of the clean surface. The green line is the spectrum obtained after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure at a surface

temperature of 200 °C. No change is observed in the O (1s) region with the CO₂ exposure.

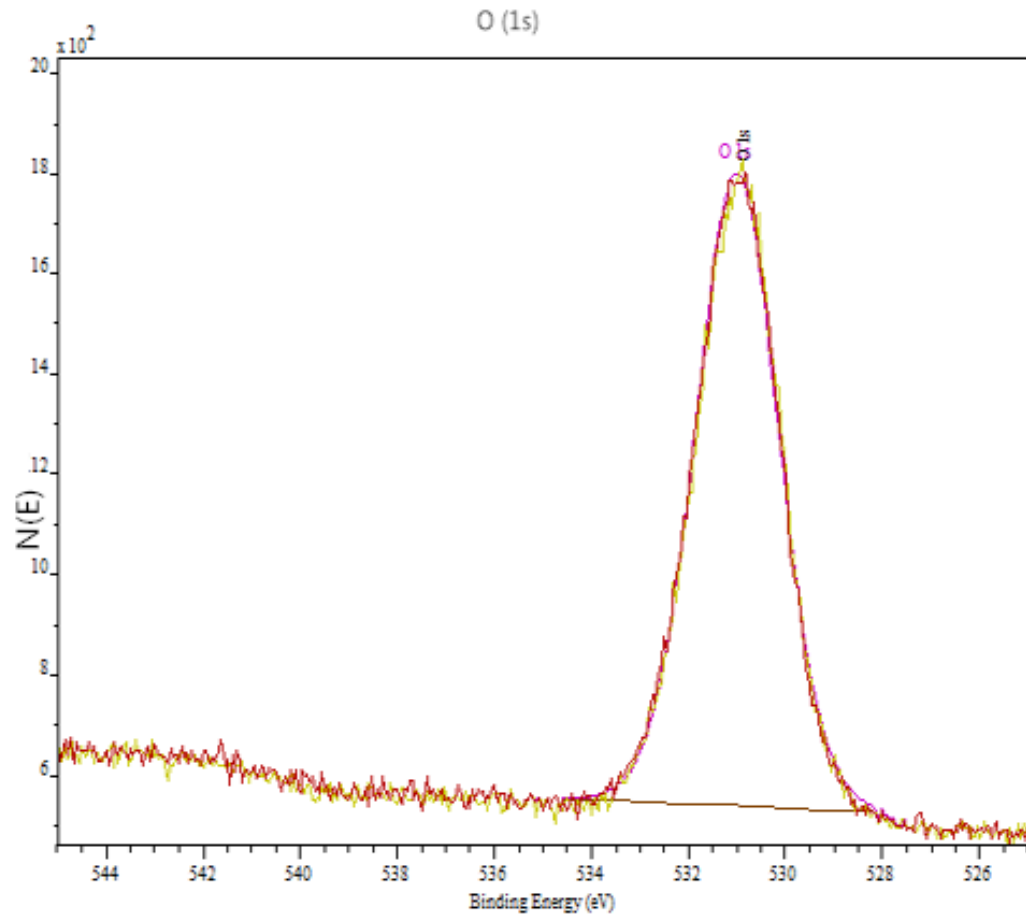


Figure 3. 17. O (1s) spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface in thermal reactions. Spectrum of clean surface (red), and spectrum taken after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure at a surface temperature of 200 °C.

3.3.3.3 Ti (2p)

Ti (2p) spectra are shown in Figure 3.19. The Ti 2p_{3/2} peak is measured at 463 eV B.E. and 5.7 eV higher B.E. is the Ti 2p_{1/2} peak. The clean surface Ti (2p) XPS is the red line in Figure 3.19 and the green line is the spectrum obtained after a 5000 L CO₂ exposure at a surface temperature of 200 °C. No evidence of a reaction with CO₂ is observed.

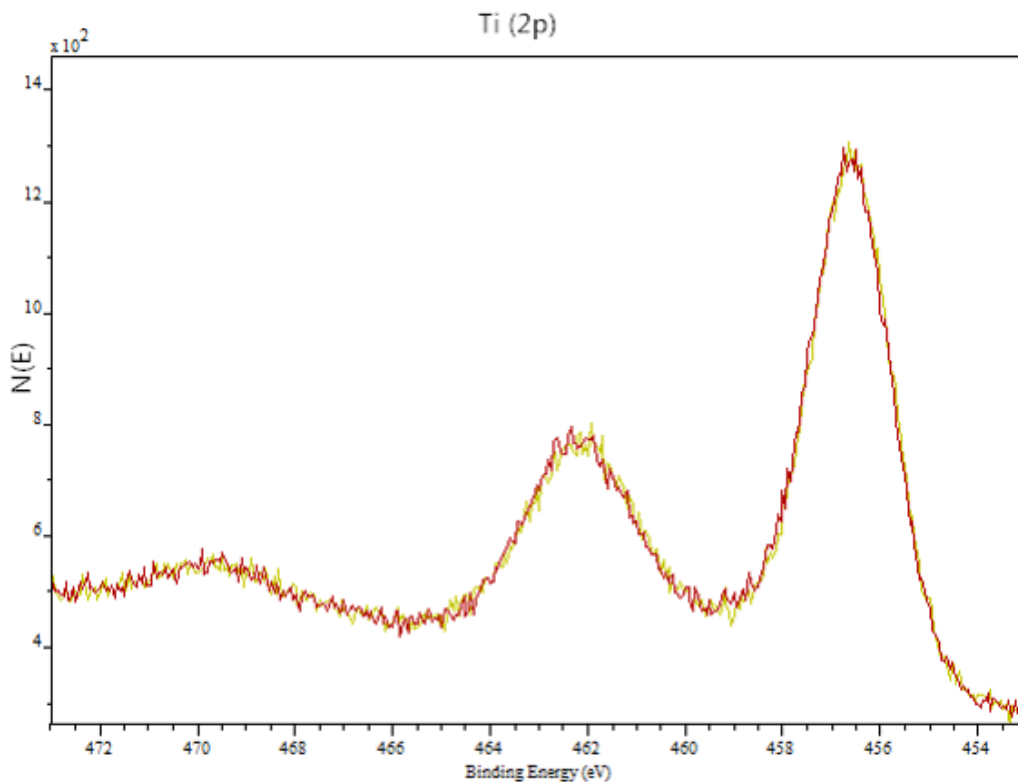


Figure 3. 18. Ti (2p) spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface in thermal reactions. Before exposure (red line), 5000 L CO₂ exposure at a surface temperature of 200 °C (green line.)

3.4 Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature

The thermal reactions of CO₂ with the TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface within a temperature range of 200-700 °C shows no carbon adsorption in Section 3.3. TiO₂ has a narrow band gap (3.0-3.3 eV), and therefore the Hg UV light (wavelength is lower than 290 nm) can be used in the photocatalytic reaction to illustrate the mechanism of possible CO₂ reaction with the TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface.

3.4.1 Analysis of AES spectra

AES spectra of TiO₂ (110) surface are shown in Figure 3.20. There are five different colored lines. The bottom dark red line is the AES spectrum of the clean surface. The yellow line is the AES spectrum taken after a 500 L CO₂ exposure. There is an increase in the carbon concentration. The purple line is the AES spectrum taken after illuminating the surface with UV light during the 500 L CO₂ exposure. The carbon concentration decreased by 0.8%. The blue line is the AES spectrum taken after the surface exposed to 500 L CO₂, followed by 10 minutes of UV irradiation. The top red line is the AES spectrum taken after a 500 L CO₂ exposure, followed by 20 minutes of UV irradiation. The average carbon concentration measured by AES after each exposure and UV irradiation are listed in Table 3.12. The concentration are the average of at least three replicate trials. If any carbon was present on the surface before the exposure (<1%), then its concentration is subtracted from the amount present after exposure. The results indicate that at room temperature, some CO₂ will adsorb on the TiO₂ surface and the average atomic percentage is $1.9 \pm 1.2\%$. However, when the CO₂-exposed surface was illuminated with UV light, there is a decrease in carbon concentration.

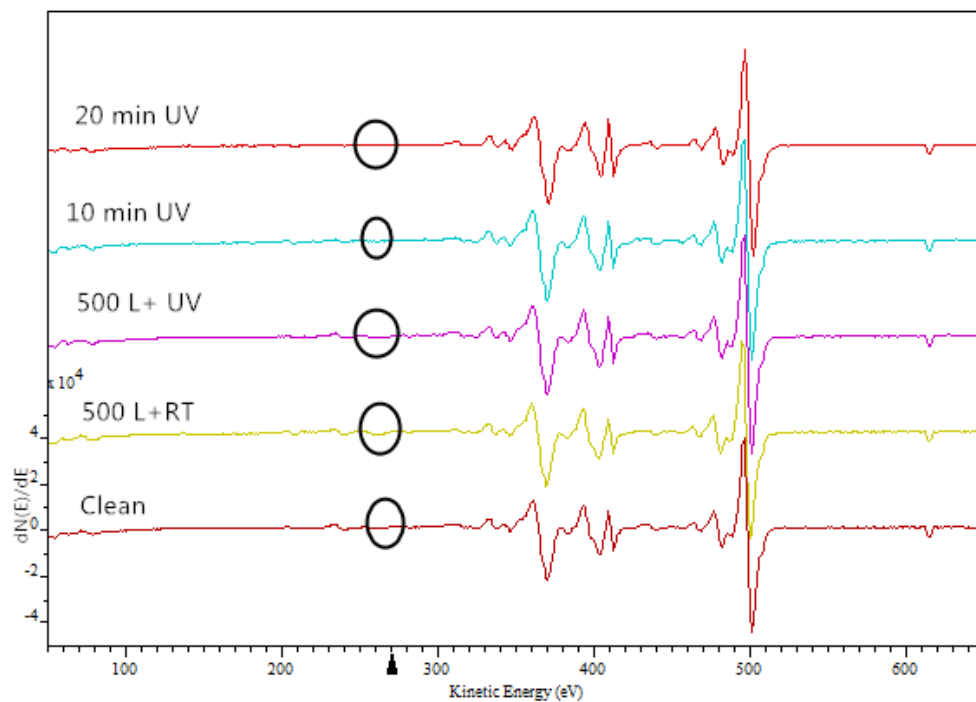


Figure 3. 19. AES spectra of TiO_2 (110) single crystal surface in photocatalytic reactions. Clean surface (dark red), surface exposed to a 500 L CO_2 exposure (yellow), surface exposed to a 500 L CO_2 and UV irradiation (purple), 500 L CO_2 -exposed surface with 10 min UV irradiation (blue), and 500 L CO_2 exposed-surface with 20 min UV irradiation (red).

Table 3. 11. Average of C concentrations on TiO₂ (110) measured by AES with CO₂ exposure and UV irradiation at room temperature.

| Experiments | Atomic % of carbon | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| | 500 L | 1000 L | 5000 L |
| R. T | 1.9 ± 1.2 | 2.2 ± 1.0 | 1.4 ± 0.4 |
| UV irradiation | n.d. | n. d.* | n.d. |
| 10 min UV irradiation | 1.3 ± 2.3 | -0.6 ± 1.0 | -0.3 ± 0.5 |
| 20 min UV irradiation | 0.3 ± 1.2 | n. d. | -0.6 ± 1.0 |

*n. d.: not detected.

3.4.2 Analysis of detailed XPS spectra

3.4.2.1 C (1s)

Detailed XPS spectra of C (1s) region of TiO₂ are shown in Figure 3.21. In Figure 3.21 a, the red spectrum was taken from the clean surface and the green spectrum was taken after the surface was exposed to 500 L CO₂ at room temperature. It is an increase in the C (1s) intensity compared to clean surface. In Figure 3.21 b, the red spectrum was taken from the 500 L CO₂ exposed surface, and the green spectrum was taken after 20 minutes UV irradiation on the surface. There is a small decrease in the carbon intensity after the UV irradiation. The average carbon concentration change of each trial are summarized in Table 3.13. The reported values are averages of at least three replicate measurements. These data were converted to Figure 3.22 to visualize these comparisons more clearly. First, when TiO₂ is exposed to CO₂ at room temperature, there is some

carbon present on the surface ($0.8 \pm 0.2\%$ for 500 L, $0.4 \pm 0.3\%$ for 1000 L and $0.3 \pm 0.2\%$ for 5000 L CO₂ exposure). After UV irradiation of the CO₂-exposed surface, the concentration of carbon decreased. These results indicate that after UV irradiation, carbon is removed as a gaseous product into the vacuum chamber.

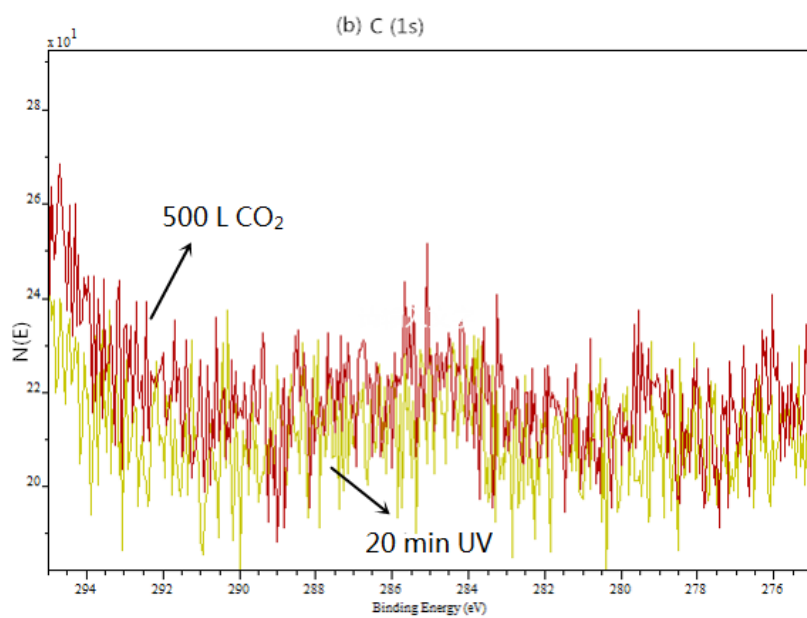
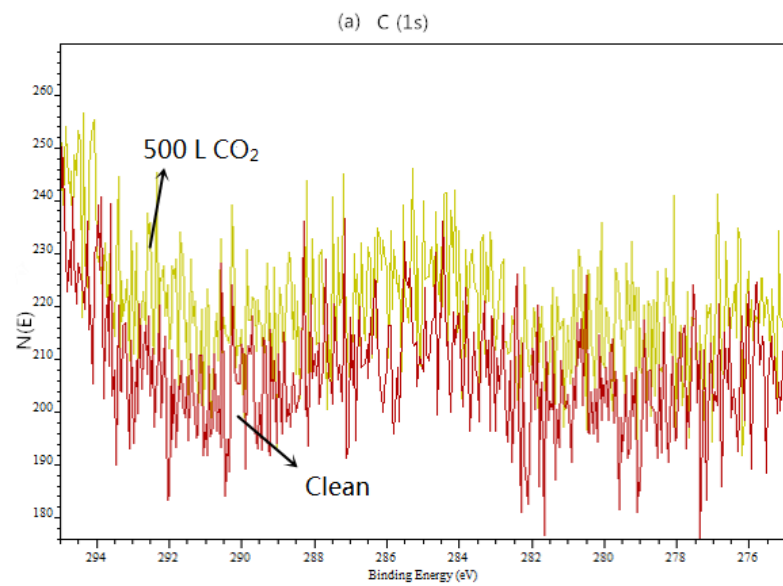
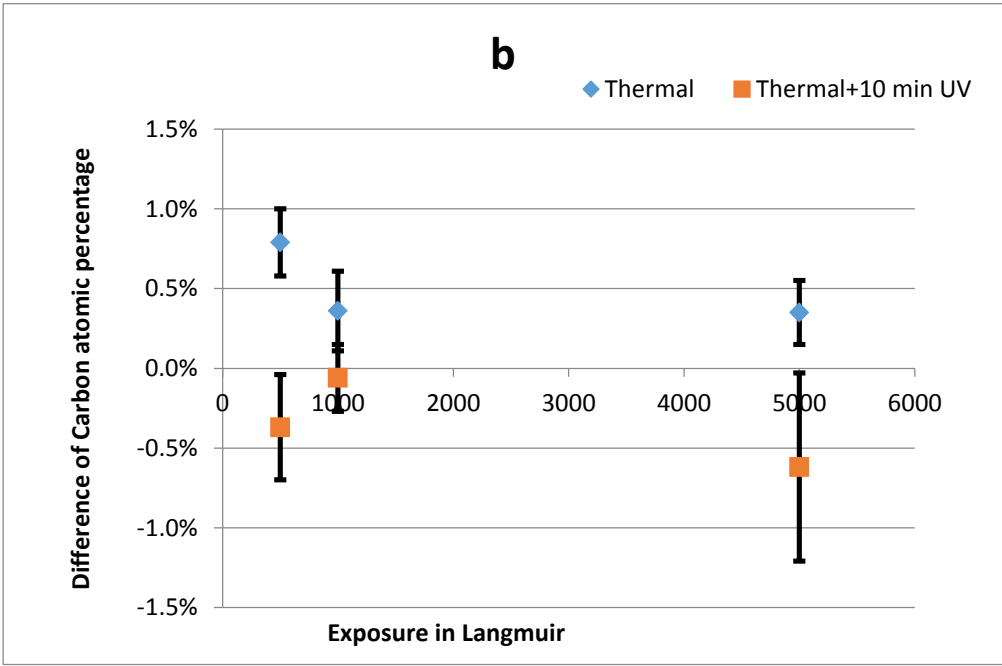
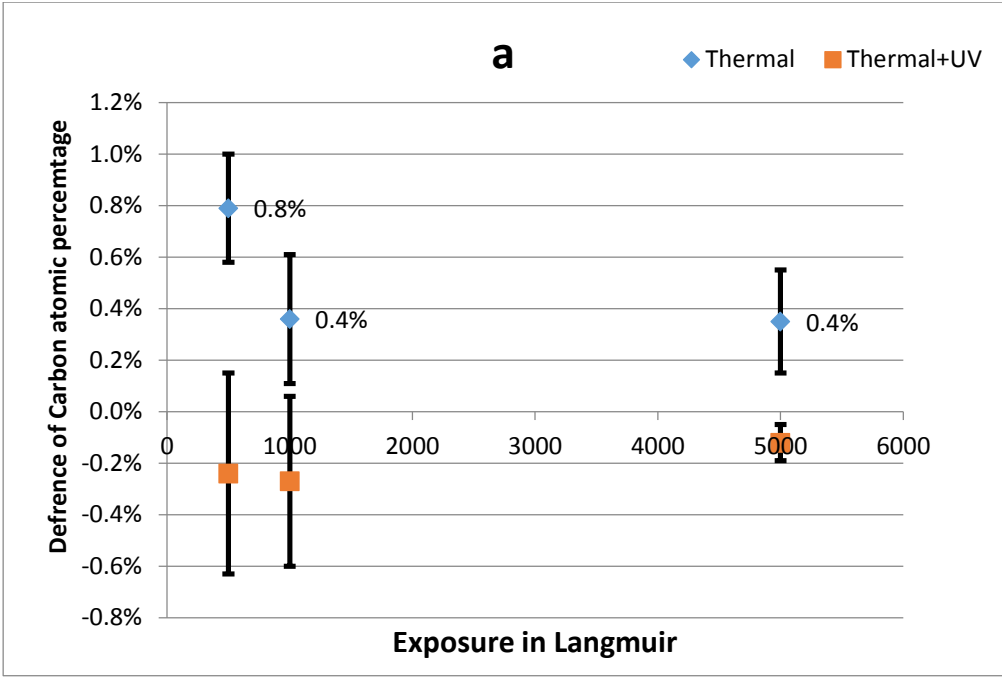


Figure 3. 20. C (1s) spectra of TiO₂ in photocatalytic reaction. (a) Red line is clean surface, green line is surface exposed to 500 L CO₂; (b) Red line is surface exposed to 500 L CO₂, and green line is after a 500 L CO₂ exposure followed by 20 min UV irradiation.

Table 3. 12. Averages of C concentrations on TiO₂ measured by XPS.

| Experiments | Atomic % of carbon | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| | 500 L | 1000 L | 5000 L |
| R. T | 0.8 ± 0.2 | 0.4 ± 0.3 | 0.3 ± 0.2 |
| UV irradiation | -0.2 ± 0.4 | -0.3 ± 0.3 | -0.1 ± 0.1 |
| 10 min UV irradiation | -0.4 ± 0.3 | -0.1 ± 0.2 | -1.3 ± 0.6 |
| 20 min UV irradiation | -0.3 ± 0.2 | n.d.* | -0.3 ± 0.2 |

*n.d.: not detected



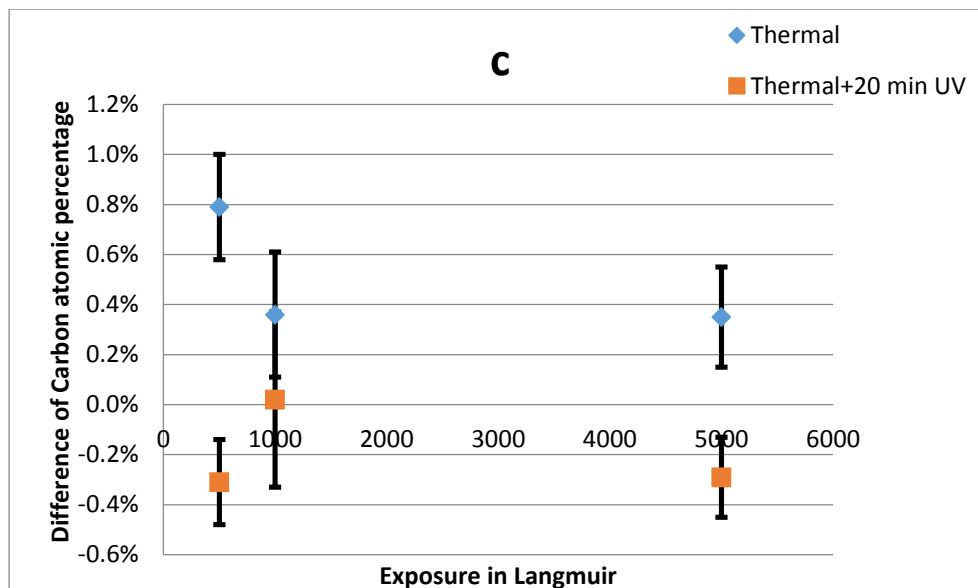


Figure 3. 21. Carbon concentrations on TiO₂. a) Thermal reactions (surface exposed to 500-5000 L CO₂ at room temperature) vs. Photocatalytic reactions (500-5000 L CO₂-exposed surface with UV irradiation); b) Thermal reactions (surface exposed to 500-5000 L CO₂ at room temperature) vs. 500-5000 L CO₂-exposed surface and followed by 10 min UV irradiation; c) Thermal reactions (500-5000 L CO₂-exposed surface) vs. 500-5000 L CO₂-exposed surface and followed by 20 min UV irradiation.

3.4.2.2 O (1s)

O (1s) XPS spectra are shown in Figure 3.23. The red spectrum was taken after a 500 L CO₂ exposure at room temperature and the green spectrum was taken 10 min UV irradiation to the CO₂-exposed surface. There is an increase in the O intensity after UV irradiation. All of the O (1s) atomic concentrations from the different CO₂ exposures and irradiation times are summarized in Appendix D. Under the conditions the oxygen concentration increased when the CO₂-exposed surfaces are illumination with UV light.

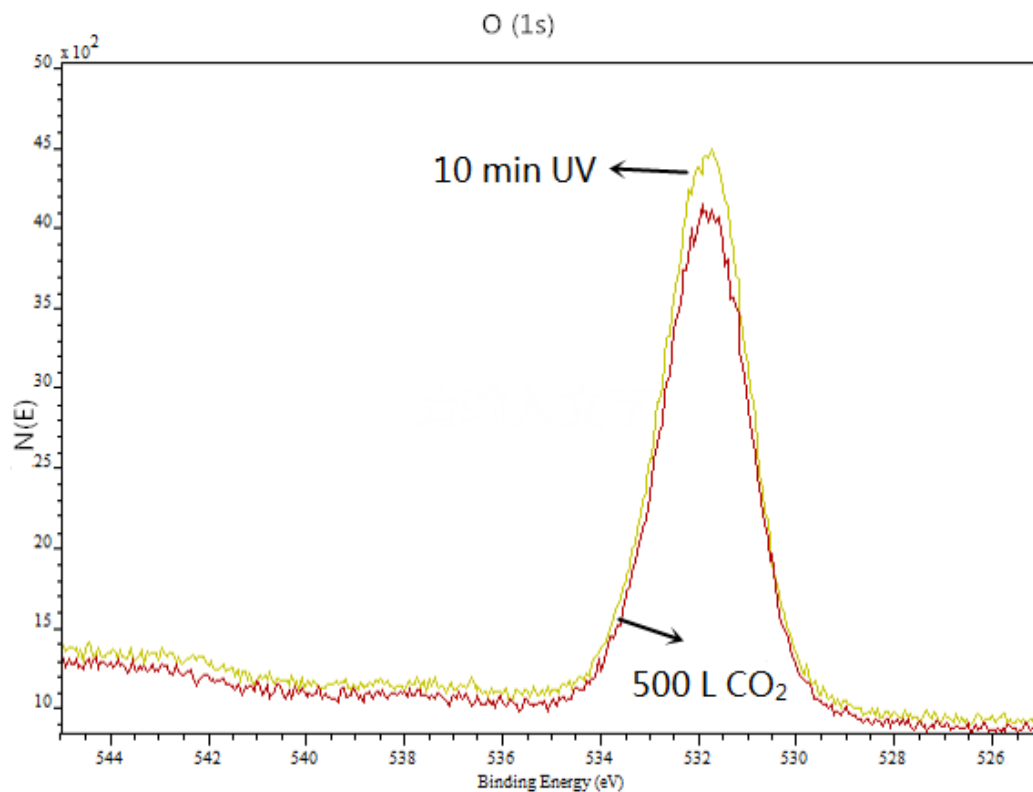


Figure 3. 22. O (1s) XPS spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface after a 500 L CO₂ (red) at room temperature followed by a 10 min UV irradiation (green).

3.4.2.3 Ti (2p)

Detailed XPS spectra of the Ti (2p) region are shown Figure 3.24. The red spectrum was taken after a 500 L CO₂ exposure at room temperature. The green spectrum was taken after a 500 L CO₂ exposure along with UV irradiation. After the irradiation, the intensity of titanium decreased. The concentrations of oxygen and titanium are listed in Table 3.14.

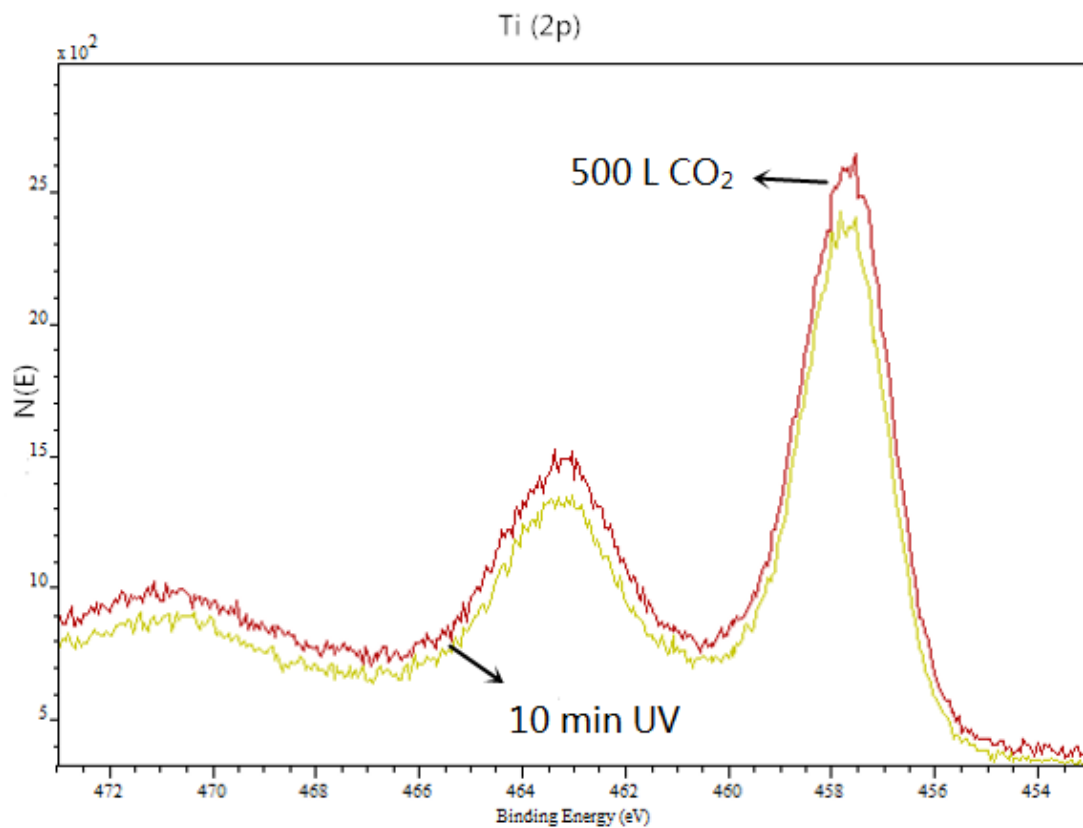


Figure 3. 23. Ti (2p) spectra of TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface in photocatalytic reactions. The red line is surface after a 500 L CO₂ exposure. The green line XPS spectrum after a 500 L CO₂ exposure during UV irradiation.

Table 3. 13. Atomic percentage changes of oxygen and titanium in photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with TiO₂ (110).

| Experiment | Atomic % of O and Ti | |
|------------------|----------------------|------------|
| | O | Ti |
| 500 L | -1.7 ± 0.8 | 0.9 ± 0.6 |
| 500 L+UV | 1.1 ± 0.3 | -0.4 ± 0.4 |
| 500L+10 miin UV | 0.8 ± 1.1 | -0.6 ± 1.1 |
| 500 L+20 min UV | -0.1 ± 1.2 | 0.4 ± 1.0 |
| 1000 L | -2.4 ± 0.3 | 2.1 ± 0.5 |
| 1000 L+UV | n.d.* | 0.4 ± 1.0 |
| 1000L+10 min UV | -0.9 ± 1.4 | 0.7 ± 1.8 |
| 1000 L+20 min UV | -0.7 ± 1.8 | 0.7 ± 1.9 |
| 5000 L | -1.4 ± 1.0 | 1.1 ± 0.7 |
| 5000 L+UV | -0.5 ± 1.1 | 0.8 ± 2.0 |
| 5000L+10 miin UV | 0.5 ± 1.1 | -0.4 ± 1.1 |
| 5000 L+20 min UV | 0.1 ± 1.2 | -0.5 ± 1.3 |

*n.d.: not detected.

3.5 References

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Chapter 4 Discussion

4.1 Thermal reactions of CO₂ on MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

The wide XPS spectrum of the clean MgO surface (Figure 3.3) can give us a general picture of the surface. It is very clear to see the O (KLL) Auger electron transition, Mg (KLL) Auger electron transition, O (1s), Mg (2s) and Mg (2p) peaks. There is a small peak of C (1s) around 283 eV binding energy which is due to the carbon contamination. There are no other impurities.

When the clean MgO (100) surface was exposed to CO₂ (500-5000 Langmuir) at different surface temperatures (550-650 °C), Auger electron and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy results indicated the presence of carbon adsorbed on the surface. In Table 3.1 and Table 3.4, it is obvious that after each exposures with a certain surface temperature, the atomic concentration of carbon on the surface increased in both AES and XPS compared to the clean surface. However, a general relationship between the CO₂ exposure and surface temperature was not observed. Most previous studies examined CO₂ adsorption at room temperature or lower and used relatively low CO₂ exposures compared to the studies described here. Our results show that with higher surfaces temperatures and “larger” CO₂ exposures, there is CO₂ decomposition on the MgO surface. However, the exact structure of carbon formed on the surface is still unclear.

The probe depths of XPS and AES are different. The AES signal can go over a greater depth (1-25 atomic layers) than XPS (1-9 atomic layers). The oxygen atomic concentration, with different (500-5000 L) CO₂ exposure at a surface temperature of 550 °C, increased from 49.7 % to 50.2 % (Table 3.6, XPS data). However, the AES data

showed that the atomic concentration of oxygen stayed around 43.5%. This means that “larger” exposure of CO₂ can increase the atomic concentration of the very near surface region compared to deeper layers after CO₂ exposure. However, when compared with clean surface, the oxygen atomic concentration is decreased. This result indicated that there is some oxygen depletion from the surface in some gaseous formation such as O₂ which was proposed in Sabatier¹ reaction shown in equation 4.1². Even though, the elemental concentrations (C : O : Mg) on MgO (100) as measured by XPS (7.4 % : 49.7 % : 42.9 %) and AES (0.8 % : 43.5 % : 55.7 %) after exposure to 500 L CO₂ at a surface temperature of 550 °C show that the ratio between Mg and O is around 1:1, therefore, the surface is still stoichiometric after CO₂ exposure.

A possible mechanism for the reaction of CO₂ with MgO (100) is shown in equation 4.1. When the clean surface of MgO (100) exposed to CO₂, some carbonate can form on the surface as a carbonate-intermediate. It is very unstable and decomposed to other products, such as C and O₂ as proposed by Sabatier¹. This predicts the carbon adsorption on the surface with an increase of atomic concentration. And it also accounts for the oxygen atomic concentration decrease because of its decomposition from the surface.



At the same time, the efficiency of carbon dioxide decomposition can be estimated. From the kinetic theory of gasses, the collisional rate of CO₂ molecules (z) is given by equation 4.2.

$$z = \frac{P}{\sqrt{2\pi mkT}} \text{ cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1} \quad 4.2$$

P is the ambient pressure in N·cm⁻²;

M is the molecular weight of gas in kg/molecule;

k is Boltzman constant in J·K⁻¹; and

T is the gas absolute temperature in Kelvin.

Assuming the sticking probability is 1, we can estimate z for CO₂. Using a 5000 Langmiur (5×10⁻⁶ torr · 1000 sec) exposure with a surface temperature 650 °C, the amount of carbon measured by AES was 2.5% (Table 3.1).

The gas source is at room temperature (298 K), so

$$\begin{aligned} z &= 5 \times 10^{-6} \times 0.0133322 / \sqrt{2 \times \pi \times (44) \times 1.66 \times 10^{-27} \times 1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 298} \\ &= 1.53 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

In 1000 seconds duration, the total number of CO₂ molecule is 1.53×10¹⁸.

However, the AES results show that the carbon atomic concentration increased by about 2.5 % on the surface. The dimension of MgO crystal surface is 1 cm×1 cm, and the lattice constant is 4.212 Å. Therefore, the total atoms number on the MgO (100) surface can be calculated at about 1.70×10¹⁴. The number of carbon atoms at the surface is 1.70×10¹⁴ ×2.5 % = 4.25×10¹². Therefore, the efficiency of the reaction is 2.8 ×10⁻⁴ % /cm⁻².

4.2 Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ on MgO (100) single crystal surfaces

MgO has a wide band gap of 7.7 eV³. So the UV light ($\Delta E = 4.3$ eV, $\lambda = 290$ nm) can not excite the electrons across the band gap in MgO. When the clean MgO (100) surface is exposed to different CO₂ exposures (500-5000 Langmuir) at room temperature, there is some carbon adsorbed on the surface as observed with both AES spectra (Figure 3.11) and XPS spectra (Figure 3.12). When the CO₂-exposed surface was illuminated with UV light for 10-20 min, neither AES nor XPS showed a change in the atomic concentration of C, Mg or O. Therefore, there is no change in atomic concentrations of elements on the surface. On the contrary, TiO₂ has a narrow band gap (3.0-3.3 eV⁴). So the UV light can lead to the atomic concentration change on the surface and the details will be addressed in Section 4.4. However, after UV irradiation on the MgO surface, the atomic percentage of all elements on MgO (100) single crystal remains unchanged and the Mg:O atomic ratio is still 1:1 or stoichiometric.

4.3 Thermal reactions of CO₂ with TiO₂

The wide XPS spectrum of TiO₂ (110) surface also can show all the elements on the surface. The O (KVV) Auger electron transition, O (1s), Ti (2p_{3/2}), Ti (2p_{1/2}), and C (1s), which is due to the contamination, and Ar (2p) which is due to the Ar sputtering are all observed on the surface.

When the clean TiO₂ (110) surface was exposed to different CO₂ exposures (500-5000 Langmuir) with different surface temperatures (200-700 °C), neither AES nor XPS results show carbon deposition on the surface. These results demonstrate that there is no thermal reaction between CO₂ and TiO₂ surface over this surface temperature range and CO₂ exposure.

4.4 Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature

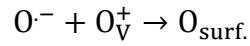
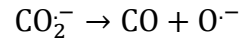
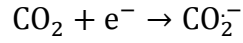
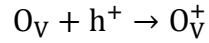
Compared to the wide band gap of MgO, TiO₂ has a narrow band gap (3.0-3.3 eV⁴), and therefore the Hg UV light ($\Delta E = 4.3$ eV, $\lambda = 290$ nm) can be used in the photocatalytic reaction to illustrate the mechanism of possible CO₂ reaction with the TiO₂ (110) single crystal surface.

When the clean surface exposed to different CO₂ exposures (500-5000 Langmuir) at room temperature, there is some carbon adsorption observed on AES. In Table 3.11, the average atomic percentage of carbon is $1.9 \pm 1.2\%$ for 500 L, $2.2 \pm 1.0\%$ for 1000 L and 1.4 ± 0.4 for 5000L CO₂ exposure.

Once the surface is exposed to 10-min UV light, the atomic concentration of carbon decreased (Table 3.11).

In the XPS results, when TiO₂ is exposed to CO₂ at room temperature, there is some carbon present on the surface and the average carbon concentration is shown in Table 3.12.

After UV irradiation on the CO₂-exposed surface, the concentration of carbon decreased in Table 3.12 which is consistent with the results of AES. These results indicated that after UV irradiation, some carbon is removed from the surface. At the same time, when we compared the UV-irradiated surface with the CO₂-exposed surface, the oxygen concentration increased in both AES and XPS spectra results. The titanium atomic concentration decreased which can be seen in Figure 3.23 and Table 3.13. A possible mechanism that can explain these results is shown 4.3⁵



In the first step of this mechanism, when the CO₂-exposed TiO₂ surface was irradiated by the UV light ($\Delta E = 4.3 \text{ eV}$, $\lambda = 290 \text{ nm}$) which is larger than the band gap of TiO₂, the electron in valance band can be excited to conduction band and an electron-hole pair (e^- - h^+) is generated. This electron-hole pair can migrate to the surface. The hole combines with an oxygen vacancy (O_V) to form O_V^+ . CO₂ can be the acceptor molecule to accept the e^- and form CO_2^- . CO_2^- decomposes to CO and desorbs from the surface. This can explain why the atomic concentration of carbon is decreased on TiO₂ with UV light exposure. And O^- is the other product that can combine with O_V^+ to create a surface oxygen atom. This reaction accounts for the addition of oxygen on the surface as observed.

4.5 References

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Chapter 5 Summary and Implications for Future Work

The conversion of CO₂ to useful products has significant meaning for mitigating CO₂ emission compared to CO₂ sequestration. The conversion of CO₂ to useful fuels, such as CO and CH₄, will bring both economic and environmental benefits. However, the conversion of CO₂ is still challenging and many scientists are exploring options. In order to achieve these conversions, a better understanding of how CO₂ reacts on catalysts is essential. In this dissertation, we used MgO (100) and TiO₂ (110) as catalytic models to further our understanding of the mechanisms for the thermal decomposition of CO₂. Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ were also explored on both crystal surfaces.

There is an increasing number of studies examining the interactions between CO₂ and metal surfaces. According to the results of these studies, the key species in the reactions are: physisorbed CO₂; chemisorbed CO₂⁻; carbon dissociation, carbonate and oxalate formation. Table 5.1 summarizes some of these studies. The interaction between CO₂ and MgO has two common species; physisorbed CO₂ and carbonate. In Chapter 1, Figure 1.3 indicated five possible carbonate structures on MgO surface¹. Compared to other oxide single crystals, MgO is widely available in nature and easy to be regenerated in its bulk form at low cost. It is a refractory metal oxide with a NaCl crystal structure.

In this dissertation, our results showed that the clean MgO surface exposed to different CO₂ (500-5000 Langmuir) exposure with a surface temperature (550-650 °C) can adsorb carbon on the surface. However, the exact structure of carbon is still unknown now. And the atomic concentration of oxygen on the very near surface decreased after exposure. Therefore, we can assume that the CO₂ adsorbs on the surface and forms some carbonate which then decomposes to other products, such as C and O₂ as we discussed in

Chapter 4. For the future experiments, we can use mass spectrometry to examine the gaseous products. Some studies have also shown that the interaction between CO₂ and MgO surface has an exchange of oxygen between the CO₂ and surface oxygen. We can use C¹⁸O₂ instead of C¹⁶O₂ and use mass spectrometry to verify what kind of gaseous products are generated; O₂, ¹⁸O₂, or O¹⁸O.

Table 5. 1. CO₂ interactions with single crystal surfaces.

| | CO ₂ (Phys.) | Carbonate | Ref. |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------|
| Barium Oxide | | | |
| BaO (Poly) | × | × | 2_3 |
| Calcium Oxide | | | |
| CaO (100) | × | × | 4 |
| Chromium Oxide | | | |
| Cr ₂ O ₃ (111) | × | × | 5 |
| Manganese Oxide | | | |
| MnO (100) | | | 6 |
| Magnesium Oxide | | | |
| MgO (100) | × | | 4, 7 |
| MgO (100) | × | × | 8 |
| MgO (111) | | | 8a |
| Sodium Oxide | | | |
| Na ₂ O (100) | × | × | 9 |
| Na ₂ O (110) | | | 9 |
| Nickle Oxide | | | |
| NiO (100) | × | | 10 |
| Titanium Dioxide | | | |
| TiO ₂ (110) | × | × | 11 |
| Zinc Oxide | | | |
| ZnO | × | | 12 |

At the same time, surface studies of TiO₂ are quickly growing in recent years. One reason is its wide range of possible applications, which were introduced in Chapter 1. The photocatalytic reduction of CO₂ with TiO₂ is an active area of research due to its potential to contribute to environmental protection and energy saving areas. Compared to

other transition metal oxides, TiO_2 has these three distinct characteristics: 1) high oxidizing ability; Some studies have shown the presence of some oxidative radicals such as $\cdot\text{OH}$ are produced when H_2O and CO_2 are exposed to UV light over TiO_2 ¹³; 2) good chemical stability; TiO_2 does not dissolve in water which is a common solvent for photocatalytic studies. TiO_2 does not dissolve in most acidic, basic and organic solvents. 3) safety; TiO_2 is relatively nontoxic.

In photocatalytic reactions of CO_2 with TiO_2 , when the clean surface exposed to different (CO_2) exposures at room temperature, there is an increasing atomic concentration of carbon on the surface. However, once the surface was under UV irradiation, the atomic concentration of carbon is decreased. At the same time, the oxygen concentration at the outermost surface layers increased. All of results indicated that the CO_2 -exposed surface after UV light irradiation, resulted in some carbon leaving the surface as gaseous product, such as CO . Mass spectrometry can be used to identify the gaseous products. In order to prove whether there is an exchange of oxygen between CO_2 and the surface, we can use C^{18}O_2 to perform the experiments instead of C^{16}O_2 , and then follow the mass spectrometry to determine the gaseous products, such as CO , C^{18}O or some other products.

The study of the catalytic reaction of CO_2 over metal oxides is a promising research area. All the methods discussed in this dissertation indicate that a metal oxide with a wide band gap, for example, MgO , can supply the CO_2 activation sites. However, due to its wide band gap, it makes a poor photocatalyst. Using a metal oxide with a band gap small enough for UV light to create electron-hole pairs, could be an active catalyst

for the reaction with CO₂ and should be examined. Potential metal oxides with small band gap include TiO₂ (3.0 eV), WO₃ (2.8 eV), and Fe₂O₃ (2.3 eV)¹⁴.

Future studies of metal oxide assisted catalytic reactions should also be extended to high surface area powdered surfaces. These high surface area powders can supply more sites for CO₂ activation. Modification to powdered samples by cation/anion doping or metal impregnation will serve as sites for CO₂ activation, and could lead to changes in the band gap. Alteration the band gap and increasing the number of active sites with powdered samples should help the development of processes that produce fuels and valued chemicals from CO₂ in the future.

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APPENDICES

Appendix A

Supplementary Information for Section 3.1

Thermal reaction of CO₂ with MgO (100) single crystal surfaces.

| SAMPLE | Temp. (°C) | CO ₂ (L) | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------|---------------|------------------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| | | | C% | O% | Mg% | C% | O% | Mg% |
| A | | | | | | | | |
| Clean | | | 7.8 | 50.7 | 41.5 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| 1 | 650 | 5000 | 8.2 | 49.4 | 42.4 | 12.6 | 40.1 | 47.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -1.3 | 0.9 | 11.7 | -4.0 | -7.7 |
| Clean | | | 7.1 | 49.8 | 43.1 | 1.1 | 37.9 | 61.0 |
| 2 | 650 | 1000 | 7.9 | 47.1 | 45.0 | 1.9 | 23.8 | 74.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.8 | -2.7 | 1.9 | 0.8 | -14.1 | 13.3 |
| Clean | | | 6.9 | 47.5 | 45.6 | 1.4 | 23.2 | 75.4 |
| 3 | 650 | 500 | 7.6 | 48.9 | 43.5 | 1.4 | 23.7 | 74.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | 1.4 | -2.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 | -0.5 |
| Clean | | | 6.9 | 49.4 | 43.7 | 1.0 | 24.3 | 74.8 |
| 4 | 650 | 5000 | 7.1 | 46.2 | 46.7 | 3.3 | 41.8 | 54.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | -3.2 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 17.6 | -19.9 |
| Clean | | | 6.2 | 50.3 | 43.4 | 1.0 | 51.6 | 47.4 |
| 5 | 650 | 1000 | 6.9 | 48.5 | 44.6 | 3.4 | 25.0 | 71.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -1.8 | 1.1 | 2.4 | -26.6 | 24.2 |
| Clean | | | 6.7 | 49.5 | 43.8 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
| 6 | 600 | 500 | 6.9 | 49.8 | 43.4 | 6.4 | 20.2 | 73.5 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-------|------|
| Difference | | | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 5.5 | -22.7 | 17.2 |
| Clean | | | 6.4 | 48.9 | 44.7 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| 7 | 600 | 5000 | 7.2 | 46.5 | 46.4 | 7.3 | 21.8 | 70.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -2.4 | 1.7 | 7.3 | -22.7 | 15.4 |
| Clean | | | 5.8 | 44.7 | 49.5 | 1.1 | 57.4 | 41.4 |
| 8 | 650 | 500 | 6.8 | 49.8 | 43.3 | 3.1 | 22.6 | 74.3 |
| Difference | | | 1.1 | 5.1 | -6.2 | 2.0 | -34.8 | 32.8 |
| SAMPLE | | | | | | | | |
| B | | | | | | | | |
| Clean | | | 7.5 | 48.3 | 44.3 | 0.0 | 34.1 | 65.9 |
| 9 | 650 | 1000 | 8.8 | 46.3 | 45.0 | 2.3 | 23.2 | 74.5 |
| DIFFERE | | | 1.3 | -2.0 | 0.7 | 2.3 | -10.9 | 8.6 |
| NCE | | | | | | | | |
| CLEAN | | | 7.7 | 47.8 | 44.5 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 10 | 650 | 5000 | 8.9 | 45.7 | 45.4 | 4.1 | 25.8 | 70.2 |
| Difference | | | 1.2 | -2.1 | 0.9 | 4.1 | -7.5 | 3.5 |
| Clean | | | 8.4 | 47.9 | 43.7 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 11 | 650 | 500 | 8.5 | 48.1 | 43.4 | 2.2 | 22.2 | 75.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.2 | -0.3 | 2.2 | -11.1 | 9.0 |
| Clean | | | 7.2 | 48.0 | 44.9 | 0.9 | 23.1 | 75.9 |
| 12 | 625 | 500 | 8.0 | 46.8 | 45.2 | 2.1 | 21.2 | 76.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.8 | -1.2 | 0.4 | 1.2 | -1.9 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 8.1 | 46.9 | 45.0 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 13 | 625 | 1000 | 8.7 | 45.0 | 46.3 | 1.9 | 18.7 | 79.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | -1.9 | 1.3 | 1.9 | -14.6 | 12.7 |
| Clean | | | 8.5 | 48.1 | 43.4 | 0.9 | 22.6 | 76.5 |
| 14 | 625 | 1000 | 9.0 | 46.1 | 45.0 | 2.4 | 24.3 | 73.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -2.0 | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.7 | -3.2 |
| Clean | | | 6.7 | 44.7 | 48.6 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-------|------|
| 15 | 550 | 500 | 6.8 | 46.9 | 46.2 | 1.6 | 19.7 | 78.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 2.3 | -2.4 | 1.6 | -13.6 | 12.0 |
| Clean | | | 7.3 | 43.5 | 49.2 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| 16 | 550 | 1000 | 7.9 | 46.6 | 45.4 | 1.6 | 26.4 | 72.0 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | 3.1 | -3.8 | 1.6 | -18.1 | 16.5 |
| Clean | | | 7.2 | 44.0 | 48.8 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 17 | 550 | 1000 | 8.0 | 47.2 | 44.8 | 1.4 | 23.2 | 75.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | 3.2 | -3.9 | 1.4 | -10.1 | 8.7 |
| Clean | | | 6.5 | 45.2 | 48.4 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 18 | 550 | 500 | 7.1 | 47.3 | 45.5 | 0.6 | 21.7 | 77.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | 2.2 | -2.8 | 0.6 | -11.6 | 11.0 |
| Clean | | | 6.9 | 44.7 | 48.5 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 19 | 550 | 1000 | 7.4 | 48.0 | 44.6 | 0.5 | 27.7 | 71.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | 3.4 | -3.9 | 0.5 | -5.6 | 5.1 |
| Clean | | | 6.7 | 44.6 | 48.7 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 20 | 550 | 5000 | 6.9 | 48.5 | 44.5 | 0.8 | 19.8 | 79.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.3 | 3.9 | -4.1 | 0.8 | -13.5 | 12.7 |
| Clean | | | 6.0 | 49.0 | 45.0 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 21 | 600 | 500 | 7.0 | 45.9 | 47.1 | 0.0 | 27.7 | 71.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.9 | -3.1 | 2.1 | 0.0 | -5.6 | 5.1 |
| Clean | | | 7.3 | 43.4 | 49.4 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 22 | 650 | 5000 | 8.1 | 47.3 | 44.6 | 0.8 | 21.2 | 78.0 |
| Difference | | | 0.9 | 3.9 | -4.8 | 0.8 | -12.1 | 11.3 |
| Clean | | | 6.8 | 49.0 | 44.2 | 0.0 | 33.3 | 66.7 |
| 23 | 600 | 500 | 7.3 | 46.1 | 46.5 | 0.5 | 27.7 | 71.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | -2.9 | 2.3 | 0.5 | -5.6 | 5.1 |
| SAMPLE | | | | | | | | |
| C | | | | | | | | |
| Clean | | | 6.9 | 47.9 | 45.2 | 0.0 | 42.1 | 57.9 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-------|-------|
| 24 | 650 | 500 | 8.3 | 47.2 | 44.5 | 3.4 | 43.6 | 52.9 |
| Difference | | | 1.5 | -0.7 | -0.8 | 3.4 | 1.6 | -5.0 |
| Clean | | | 7.3 | 44.6 | 48.2 | 0.6 | 65.2 | 34.2 |
| 25 | 650 | 1000 | 9.6 | 48.5 | 41.9 | 2.2 | 54.7 | 43.1 |
| Difference | | | 2.3 | 3.9 | -6.2 | 1.5 | -10.4 | 8.9 |
| Clean | | | 7.8 | 49.1 | 43.1 | 0.0 | 42.1 | 57.9 |
| 26 | 650 | 5000 | 7.9 | 47.9 | 44.2 | 3.4 | 43.0 | 53.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | -1.2 | 1.1 | 3.4 | 0.9 | -4.3 |
| Clean | | | 9.2 | 44.5 | 46.4 | 1.0 | 49.1 | 49.9 |
| 27 | 625 | 500 | 9.3 | 46.6 | 44.2 | 1.4 | 70.8 | 27.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 2.1 | -2.2 | 0.4 | 21.7 | -22.1 |
| Clean | | | 7.8 | 45.2 | 47.0 | 0.0 | 68.5 | 31.5 |
| 28 | 625 | 5000 | 8.4 | 48.3 | 43.3 | 1.2 | 60.9 | 37.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | 3.2 | -3.7 | 1.2 | -7.7 | 6.5 |
| Clean | | | 8.5 | 48.1 | 43.3 | 0.0 | 54.9 | 45.1 |
| 29 | 625 | 1000 | 8.9 | 45.7 | 45.4 | 1.8 | 46.4 | 51.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -2.5 | 2.1 | 1.8 | -8.5 | 6.7 |
| Clean | | | 8.0 | 47.3 | 44.7 | 0.0 | 54.9 | 45.1 |
| 30 | 650 | 5000 | 9.4 | 45.9 | 44.6 | 1.5 | 50.5 | 48.0 |
| Difference | | | 1.4 | -1.4 | 0.0 | 1.5 | -4.5 | 3.0 |
| Clean | | | 7.0 | 42.8 | 50.3 | 0.0 | 49.6 | 50.4 |
| 31 | 650 | 500 | 7.3 | 48.9 | 43.7 | 1.2 | 60.9 | 37.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 6.1 | -6.5 | 1.2 | 11.3 | -12.5 |
| SAMPLE | | | | | | | | |
| D | | | | | | | | |
| Clean | | | 7.1 | 48.0 | 44.9 | 0.0 | 60.9 | 39.1 |
| 32 | 650 | 500 | 7.6 | 47.4 | 45.0 | 3.7 | 61.9 | 34.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -0.5 | 0.1 | 3.7 | 1.0 | -4.6 |
| Clean | | | 7.4 | 46.2 | 46.4 | 0.6 | 65.2 | 34.2 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|-----|-------|------|-----|-------|-------|
| 33 | 650 | 1000 | 8.2 | 47.1 | 44.7 | 2.5 | 63.9 | 33.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.8 | 0.9 | -1.7 | 1.9 | -1.2 | -0.6 |
| Clean | | | 6.9 | 45.0 | 48.0 | 1.3 | 66.9 | 31.8 |
| 34 | 650 | 5000 | 8.4 | 48.8 | 42.8 | 1.3 | 66.1 | 32.6 |
| Difference | | | 1.5 | 3.7 | -5.2 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 6.6 | 47.2 | 46.3 | 0.0 | 60.9 | 39.1 |
| 35 | 600 | 500 | 7.8 | 48.0 | 44.2 | 1.4 | 69.1 | 29.5 |
| Difference | | | 1.2 | 0.8 | -2.1 | 1.4 | 8.2 | -9.6 |
| Clean | | | 7.4 | 48.3 | 44.3 | 0.0 | 60.9 | 39.1 |
| 37 | 600 | 5000 | 8.2 | 47.5 | 44.3 | 1.3 | 66.1 | 32.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -0.8% | 0.0 | 1.3 | 5.2 | -6.5 |
| Clean | | | 6.0 | 45.8 | 48.3 | 0.6 | 61.2 | 38.2 |
| 38 | 600 | 500 | 6.6 | 49.2 | 44.2 | 1.2 | 58.5 | 40.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | 3.5 | -4.1 | 0.5 | -2.7 | 2.2 |
| Clean | | | 7.0 | 47.9 | 45.1 | 0.0 | 60.9 | 39.1 |
| 39 | 600 | 5000 | 7.6 | 45.5 | 46.9 | 2.1 | 52.8 | 45.1 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | -2.4 | 1.8 | 2.1 | -8.1 | 6.0 |
| Clean | | | 5.8 | 48.5 | 45.7 | 0.7 | 71.2 | 28.1 |
| 40 | 650 | 500 | 6.5 | 48.2 | 45.3 | 1.1 | 57.4 | 41.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -0.3 | -0.4 | 0.4 | -13.8 | 13.4 |
| Clean | | | 6.5 | 48.2 | 45.3 | 0.0 | 54.0 | 46.0 |
| 41 | 650 | 1000 | 6.6 | 45.0 | 48.5 | 1.0 | 51.6 | 47.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | -3.2 | 3.1 | 1.0 | -2.4 | 1.4 |
| Clean | | | 6.8 | 47.2 | 46.0 | 0.8 | 39.5 | 59.7 |
| 42 | 650 | 5000 | 7.2 | 47.4 | 45.4 | 1.1 | 55.3 | 43.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 0.2 | -0.5 | 0.3 | 15.8 | -16.1 |
| Clean | | | 5.9 | 47.0 | 47.1 | 1.0 | 49.1 | 49.9 |
| 43 | 650 | 1000 | 6.3 | 48.0 | 45.7 | 1.2 | 63.4 | 35.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 1.0 | -1.4 | 0.3 | 14.3 | -14.6 |
| Clean | | | 6.2 | 47.1 | 46.7 | 0.7 | 73.0 | 26.3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|-------|------|
| 44 | 650 | 5000 | 7.8 | 48.7 | 43.5 | 1.1 | 53.4 | 45.6 |
| Difference | | | 1.6 | 1.7% | -3.3 | 0.3 | -19.6 | 19.2 |

SAMPLE

E

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Clean | | | 6.4 | 50.0 | 43.6 | 0.0 | 45.8 | 54.2 |
| 45 | 575 | 500 | 1.6 | 53.2 | 45.2 | 0.9 | 45.4 | 53.7 |
| Difference | | | -4.8 | 3.2 | 1.6 | 0.9 | -0.4 | -0.5 |
| Clean | | | 6.7 | 51.5 | 41.8 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| 46 | 550 | 500 | 7.4 | 49.7 | 42.9 | 0.9 | 43.5 | 55.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -1.9 | 1.1 | 0.9 | -1.7 | 0.8 |
| Clean | | | 7.0 | 49.9 | 43.1 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 47 | 550 | 1000 | 7.4 | 52.4 | 40.2 | 1.7 | 44.4 | 53.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 2.5 | -2.9 | 1.7 | 1.1 | -2.9 |
| Clean | | | 6.6 | 50.5 | 42.9 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| 48 | 575 | 1000 | 6.8 | 50.0 | 43.2 | 0.9 | 43.5 | 55.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | -0.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | -0.6 | 0.6 |
| Clean | | | 6.6 | 50.5 | 42.9 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| 49 | 600 | 1000 | 6.6 | 50.7 | 42.8 | 1.7 | 43.1 | 55.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 1.7 | -2.0 | 0.3 |
| Clean | | | 1.5 | 53.6 | 44.9 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| 50 | 625 | 1000 | 6.5 | 50.7 | 42.9 | 0.9 | 45.4 | 53.7 |
| Difference | | | 5.0 | -2.9 | -2.0 | 0.9 | 0.3 | -1.2 |
| Clean | | | 6.0 | 50.3 | 43.7 | 1.7 | 44.4 | 53.9 |
| 51 | 600 | 5000 | 6.0 | 51.7 | 42.3 | 8.7 | 40.1 | 51.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 1.4 | -1.4 | 6.9 | -4.3 | -2.6 |

SAMPLE

F

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--|--|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Clean | | | 5.2 | 49.4 | 45.4 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
|-------|--|--|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 52 | 550 | 5000 | 6.1 | 50.2 | 43.8 | 0.9 | 43.5 | 55.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.8 | 0.8 | -1.7 | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.6 |
| Clean | | | 5.8 | 52.5 | 41.7 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
| 53 | 575 | 5000 | 6.3 | 50.9 | 42.8 | 0.9 | 43.5 | 55.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -1.6 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.6 |
| Clean | | | 5.8 | 52.5 | 41.7 | 1.6 | 40.8 | 57.6 |
| 54 | 575 | 1000 | 6.6 | 50.0 | 43.3 | 3.4 | 58.3 | 38.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.8 | -2.5 | 1.7 | 1.8 | 17.5 | -19.3 |
| Clean | | | 4.8 | 50.7 | 44.5 | 2.1 | 52.8 | 45.1 |
| 55 | 575 | 500 | 7.7 | 48.8 | 43.6 | 2.1 | 53.8 | 44.1 |
| Difference | | | 2.9 | -2.0 | -0.9 | 0.0 | 0.9 | -1.0 |
| Clean | | | 6.2 | 49.6 | 44.2 | 2.0 | 51.9 | 46.0 |
| 56 | 575 | 1000 | 6.4 | 51.2 | 42.4 | 1.7 | 42.5 | 55.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | 1.6 | -1.8 | -0.4 | -9.4 | 9.8 |
| Clean | | | 5.7 | 53.3 | 41.0 | 0.0 | 42.6 | 57.4 |
| 57 | 575 | 500 | 6.4 | 50.6 | 43.0 | 1.7 | 42.5 | 55.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -2.6 | 2.0 | 1.7 | -0.1 | -1.6 |
| Clean | | | 6.8 | 48.4 | 44.8 | 1.6 | 41.4 | 57.0 |
| 58 | 575 | 5000 | 7.8 | 49.9 | 42.3 | 1.7 | 42.5 | 55.8 |
| Difference | | | 1.0 | 1.5 | -2.5 | 0.0 | 1.2 | -1.2 |

SAMPLE

G

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Clean | | | 4.3 | 48.7 | 47.0 | 0.9 | 45.4 | 53.7 |
| 59 | 550 | 500 | 6.0 | 50.5 | 43.5 | 1.7 | 44.4 | 53.9 |
| Difference | | | 1.7 | 1.8 | -3.5 | 0.9 | -1.1 | 0.2 |
| Clean | | | 6.6 | 50.4 | 43.0 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| 60 | 575 | 500 | 6.9 | 47.6 | 45.4 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| Difference | | | 0.3 | -2.7 | 2.4 | 0.9 | -0.4 | -0.5 |
| Clean | | | 5.9 | 50.8 | 43.3 | 0.0 | 46.5 | 53.5 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 61 | 575 | 1000 | 6.4 | 47.2 | 46.4 | 0.9 | 45.4 | 53.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -3.6 | 3.1 | 0.9 | -1.1 | 0.2 |
| Clean | | | 5.6 | 46.6 | 47.8 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| 62 | 575 | 1000 | 6.7 | 49.0 | 44.3 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 1.0 | 2.4 | -3.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 5.6 | 46.6 | 47.8 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| 63 | 575 | 5000 | 5.6 | 45.1 | 49.3 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | -1.5 | 1.6 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 5.5 | 49.8 | 44.8 | 0.0 | 46.5 | 53.5 |
| 64 | 575 | 5000 | 5.8 | 50.6 | 43.6 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 0.8 | -1.2 | 0.0 | -1.4 | 1.4 |
| 65 | 550 | 5000 | 6.0 | 50.2 | 43.8 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 5.6 | 43.0 | 51.4 | 0.0 | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| 66 | 575 | 5000 | 6.0 | 50.0 | 44.0 | 0.9 | 44.8 | 54.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 7.0 | -7.4 | 0.9 | 0.9 | -1.8 |
| Clean | | | 6.0 | 51.0 | 43.0 | 0.0 | 45.8 | 54.2 |
| 67 | 550 | 5000 | 6.6 | 49.7 | 43.7 | 0.0 | 45.8 | 54.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | -1.3 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 6.3 | 52.4 | 41.3 | 0.0 | 45.8 | 54.2 |
| 68 | 550 | 5000 | 6.6 | 46.0 | 47.4 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| Difference | | | 0.3 | -6.4 | 6.2 | 0.9 | -1.7 | 0.9 |
| 69 | 600 | 1000 | 7.4 | 50.2 | 42.4 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| Difference | | | 1.1 | -2.2 | 1.2 | 0.9 | -1.7 | 0.9 |
| Clean | | | 6.3 | 45.0 | 48.7 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| 70 | 600 | 1000 | 6.8 | 48.1 | 45.0 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | 3.1 | -3.7 | -0.9 | 1.0 | -0.2 |
| Clean | | | 5.4 | 46.8 | 47.8 | 0.0 | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| 71 | 600 | 1000 | 6.2 | 50.4 | 43.3 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.8 | 3.7 | -4.5 | 0.0 | 1.3 | -1.3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|-----|------|------|
| 72 | 625 | 500 | 6.6 | 45.9 | 47.4 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -4.5 | 4.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 73 | 625 | 1000 | 7.0 | 49.2 | 43.7 | 0.9 | 44.1 | 55.0 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | 3.3 | -3.7 | 0.9 | -1.0 | 0.2 |
| Clean | | | 5.9 | 44.2 | 49.9 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| 74 | 625 | 500 | 6.4 | 49.6 | 44.0 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | 5.4 | -6.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 75 | 625 | 5000 | 7.0 | 46.7 | 46.4 | 0.9 | 43.5 | 55.7 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | -3.0 | 2.4 | 0.9 | -1.0 | 0.2 |
| Clean | | | 5.1 | 44.5 | 50.4 | 0.0 | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| 76 | 625 | 5000 | 6.1 | 47.1 | 46.8 | 0.0 | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| Difference | | | 1.0 | 2.6 | -3.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 77 | 625 | 5000 | 6.8 | 50.3 | 42.9 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | 5.8 | -7.5 | 0.0 | 1.3 | -1.3 |
| 78 | 625 | 5000 | 7.8 | 48.5 | 43.7 | 0.0 | 45.2 | 54.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.9 | -1.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Appendix B

Supplementary Information for Section 3.2

Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with MgO (100) single crystal surfaces.

B-1. 500 L CO₂ exposure with MgO (100) at room temperature.

| EXP. | CO ₂ (L) | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| Trial 1 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 7.3 | 44.8 | 47.8 | 2.5 | 42.2 | 55.3 |
| 2 | 500 | 7.8 | 48.5 | 43.7 | 3.3 | 41.8 | 54.9 |
| Difference | | 0.5 | 3.7 | -4.2 | 0.8 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 7.6 | 48.6 | 43.8 | 2.4 | 40.5 | 57.1 |
| Difference | | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -0.9 | -1.3 | 2.2 |
| Trial 2 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 6.0 | 52.1 | 41.9 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
| 2 | 500 | 6.3 | 48.6 | 45.1 | 2.5 | 42.2 | 55.3 |
| Difference | | 0.3 | -3.5 | 3.2 | 1.6 | -0.7 | -0.9 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 6.4 | 49.3 | 44.3 | 1.7 | 43.7 | 54.5 |
| Difference | | 0.1 | 0.7 | -0.8 | -0.8 | 1.6 | -0.8 |
| Trial 3 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 6.5 | 50.9 | 42.7 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
| 2 | 500 | 6.9 | 51.2 | 41.9 | 2.5 | 41.6 | 55.9 |
| Difference | | 0.4 | 0.4 | -0.8 | 1.6 | -1.3 | -0.3 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 6.9 | 51.3 | 41.8 | 1.6 | 41.6 | 55.9 |
| Difference | | 0.0 | 0.1 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

B-2. 1000 L CO₂ exposure with MgO (100) at room temperature.

| EXP. | CO ₂ (L) | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------|---------------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| Trial 1 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 5.5 | 49.1 | 45.4 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 2 | 1000 | 7.1 | 48.4 | 44.5 | 2.5 | 42.8 | 54.7 |
| Difference | | 1.6 | -0.7 | -0.9 | 2.5 | -0.5 | -2.0 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 7.1 | 48.2 | 44.7 | 2.5 | 42.5 | 55.0 |
| Difference | | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 0.3 |
| Trial 2 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 5.5 | 49.1 | 45.4 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 2 | 1000 | 7.1 | 48.4 | 44.5 | 2.5 | 42.8 | 54.7 |
| Difference | | 1.6 | -0.7 | -0.9 | 2.5 | -0.5 | -2.0 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 7.3 | 47.7 | 45.0 | 1.7 | 41.9 | 56.4 |
| Difference | | 0.1 | -0.6 | 0.5 | -0.9 | -0.8 | 1.7 |
| Trial 3 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 5.5 | 49.1 | 45.4 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 2 | 1000 | 7.1 | 48.4 | 44.5 | 2.5 | 42.8 | 54.7 |
| Difference | | 1.6 | -0.7 | -0.9 | 2.5 | -0.5 | -2.0 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 7.3 | 48.7 | 44.0 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| Difference | | 0.2 | 0.3 | -0.5 | -2.5 | 0.5 | 2.0 |

B-3. 5000 L CO₂ exposure with MgO (100) at room temperature.

| EXP. | CO ₂ (L) | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------|---------------------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| | | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| Trial 1 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 6.7 | 47.2 | 46.1 | 0.0 | 42.6 | 57.4 |
| 2 | 5000 | 7.4 | 47.6 | 45.0 | 0.0 | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| Difference | | 0.7 | 0.4 | -1.1 | 0.0 | 1.3 | -1.3 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 7.4 | 48.2 | 44.4 | 0.0 | 43.9 | 56.1 |
| Difference | | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Trial 2 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 5.5 | 47.7 | 46.8 | 0.0 | 43.2 | 56.8 |
| 2 | 5000 | 6.4 | 49.4 | 44.2 | 0.8 | 42.9 | 56.3 |
| Difference | | 0.9 | 1.7 | -2.6 | 0.8 | -0.3 | -0.5 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 6.0 | 48.9 | 45.1 | 0.8 | 42.1 | 57.1 |
| Difference | | -0.4 | -0.5 | 0.9 | 0.0 | -0.8 | 0.8 |
| Trial 3 | | | | | | | |
| 1 | N/A | 7.8 | 46.4 | 45.8 | 0.0 | 44.5 | 55.5 |
| 2 | | 8.9 | 46.6 | 44.5 | 0.0 | 42.6 | 57.4 |
| Difference | | 1.1 | 0.2 | -1.3 | 0.0 | -1.9 | 1.9 |
| 3 | 10 min UV | 7.4 | 48.6 | 44.0 | 0.0 | 42.1 | 57.9 |
| Difference | | -1.5 | 2.0 | -0.5 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.5 |

Appendix C

Supplementary Information for Section 3.3

Thermal reaction of CO₂ with TiO₂ at different surface temperatures (200-700 °C)

| EXP. | Temp. (°C) | CO ₂ (L) | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| | | | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| Clean | | | 1.8 | 72.4 | 25.7 | 0.0 | 74.8 | 25.2 |
| 1 | 200 | 500 | 1.7 | 73.4 | 24.9 | 1.4 | 20.1 | 78.5 |
| Difference | | | -0.2 | 0.9 | -0.8 | 1.4 | -54.6 | 53.3 |
| Clean | | | 1.0 | 73.4 | 25.6 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| 2 | 250 | 500 | 1.4 | 72.6 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.3 | -0.8 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 3 | 300 | 500 | 1.5 | 73.4 | 25.2 | 2.2 | 74.5 | 23.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 2.2 | 0.8 | -3.0 |
| Clean | | | 0.8 | 73.3 | 25.9 | 0.0 | 73.2 | 26.8 |
| 4 | 350 | 500 | 1.2 | 73.1 | 25.7 | 2.1 | 72.5 | 25.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 2.1 | -0.6 | -1.5 |
| 5 | 450 | 500 | 0.9 | 73.1 | 26.0 | 2.2 | 74.0 | 23.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 1.4 | -1.5 |
| 6 | 500 | 500 | 1.1 | 73.0 | 25.9 | 0.7 | 75.1 | 24.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -1.4 | 1.1 | 0.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 73.1 | 25.7 | 0.0 | 70.0 | 30.0 |
| 7 | 550 | 500 | 1.2 | 74.1 | 24.7 | 2.7 | 68.5 | 28.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 1.0 | -1.0 | 2.7 | -1.5 | -1.2 |
| 8 | 600 | 500 | 0.8 | 73.2 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 75.6 | 24.4 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Difference | | | -0.4 | -0.9 | 1.3 | -2.7 | 7.1 | -4.4 |
| 9 | 650 | 500 | 1.3 | 73.5 | 25.2 | 1.5 | 74.0 | 24.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | 0.3 | -0.8 | 1.5 | -1.6 | 0.1 |
| Clean | | | 1.0 | 75.5 | 23.5 | 0.0 | 75.1 | 24.9 |
| 10 | 700 | 500 | 1.5 | 72.6 | 25.9 | 0.0 | 74.6 | 25.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -2.9 | 2.4 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.5 |
| 11 | 200 | 1000 | 1.6 | 72.8 | 25.6 | 0.0 | 76.2 | 23.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.2 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 1.5 | -1.5 |
| 12 | 250 | 1000 | 1.5 | 73.5 | 25.0 | 1.5 | 74.5 | 24.0 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 0.7 | -0.6 | 1.5 | -1.6 | 0.2 |
| Clean | | | 2.7 | 80.3 | 17.0 | 1.6 | 81.6 | 16.8 |
| 13 | 200 | 1000 | 3.2 | 79.7 | 17.0 | 6.3 | 79.5 | 14.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -0.6 | 0.0 | 4.7 | -2.1 | -2.6 |
| 14 | 250 | 1000 | 2.2 | 79.9 | 17.9 | 1.6 | 82.8 | 15.6 |
| Difference | | | -1.0 | 0.1 | 0.9 | -4.6 | 3.3 | 1.3 |
| Clean | | | 2.5 | 81.1 | 16.4 | 3.2 | 81.5 | 15.3 |
| 15 | 300 | 1000 | 3.2 | 80.5 | 16.3 | 1.7 | 84.1 | 14.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -0.6 | -0.1 | -1.6 | 2.6 | -1.0 |
| 16 | 350 | 1000 | 1.9 | 80.6 | 17.6 | 0.8 | 83.5 | 15.7 |
| Difference | | | -1.3 | 0.1 | 1.2 | -0.8 | -0.6 | 1.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.5 | 80.9 | 17.6 | 1.6 | 82.8 | 15.6 |
| 17 | 400 | 1000 | 1.6 | 81.4 | 17.0 | 0.8 | 84.1 | 15.1 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.5 | -0.6 | -0.8 | 1.3 | -0.5 |
| 18 | 450 | 1000 | 1.4 | 81.3 | 17.4 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| Difference | | | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0.4 | -0.8 | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| Clean | | | 2.7 | 82.6 | 14.7 | 1.6 | 81.6 | 16.8 |
| 19 | 500 | 1000 | 4.7 | 81.8 | 13.5 | 0.8 | 86.1 | 13.1 |
| Difference | | | 2.0 | -0.8 | -1.2 | -0.8 | 4.5 | -3.7 |
| 20 | 550 | 1000 | 2.6 | 82.0 | 15.4 | 0.8 | 84.8 | 14.4 |
| Difference | | | -2.0 | 0.1 | 1.9 | 0.0 | -1.3 | 1.3 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Clean | | | 2.6 | 82.0 | 15.4 | 0.0 | 83.6 | 16.4 |
| 21 | 600 | 1000 | 1.8 | 81.7 | 16.5 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.8 | -0.3 | 1.1 | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.6 |
| Clean | | | 1.8 | 81.7 | 16.5 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| 22 | 650 | 1000 | 1.1 | 96.3 | 2.5 | 0.8 | 84.1 | 15.1 |
| Difference | | | -0.7 | 14.6 | -13.9 | 0.8 | -0.7 | -0.1 |
| Clean | | | 2.3 | 81.3 | 16.4 | 1.6 | 83.4 | 14.9 |
| 23 | 700 | 1000 | 1.3 | 81.7 | 16.9 | 0.0 | 85.5 | 14.5 |
| Difference | | | -1.0 | 0.4 | 0.6 | -1.6 | 2.0 | -0.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 81.7 | 16.9 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| 23 | 200 | 5000 | 1.9 | 82.5 | 15.6 | 3.1 | 78.6 | 18.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | 0.8 | -1.4 | 3.1 | -6.2 | 3.1 |
| 24 | 250 | 5000 | 1.5 | 82.6 | 15.9 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| Difference | | | -0.5 | 0.1 | 0.4 | -3.1 | 6.2 | -3.1 |
| Clean | | | 1.9 | 82.7 | 15.4 | 0.0 | 86.1 | 13.9 |
| 25 | 300 | 5000 | 1.3 | 82.4 | 16.3 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| Difference | | | -0.6 | -0.3 | 0.9 | 0.0 | -1.3 | 1.3 |
| 26 | 350 | 5000 | 1.6 | 82.8 | 15.5 | 1.6 | 82.8 | 15.6 |
| Difference | | | 0.3 | 0.4 | -0.7 | 1.6 | -2.0 | 0.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.6 | 82.8 | 15.5 | 1.6 | 83.4 | 14.9 |
| 27 | 400 | 5000 | 2.1 | 82.4 | 15.5 | 2.3 | 78.7 | 19.0 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -0.4 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -4.8 | 4.1 |
| Clean | | | 5.3 | 89.8 | 4.9 | 2.7 | 93.1 | 4.2 |
| 28 | 450 | 5000 | 7.3 | 89.0 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 98.2 | 1.8 |
| Difference | | | 2.0 | -0.8 | -1.2 | -2.7 | 5.2 | -2.4 |
| Clean | | | 7.3 | 89.0 | 3.7 | 0.0 | 95.7 | 4.3 |
| 29 | 500 | 5000 | 6.4 | 89.6 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 98.0 | 2.0 |
| Difference | | | -0.9 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 2.3 | -2.3 |
| Clean | | | 6.4 | 89.6 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 95.7 | 4.3 |
| 30 | 550 | 5000 | 6.1 | 88.8 | 5.1 | 2.8 | 93.9 | 3.4 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| Difference | | | -0.3 | -0.8 | 1.1 | 2.8 | -1.8 | -0.9 |
| Clean | | | 16.6 | 70.0 | 13.4 | 1.4 | 73.1 | 25.5 |
| 31 | 550 | 1000 | 15.3 | 70.3 | 14.3 | 0.7 | 72.6 | 26.6 |
| Difference | | | -1.2 | 0.3% | 0.9 | -0.7 | -0.4 | 1.2 |
| Clean | | | 20.9 | 69.7 | 9.4 | 0.7 | 72.6 | 26.6 |
| 32 | 500 | 1000 | 21.2 | 70.3 | 8.5 | 0.8 | 77.7 | 21.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.3 | 0.6 | -0.9 | 0.0 | 5.0 | -5.1 |
| 33 | 450 | 1000 | 22.7 | 69.4 | 7.9 | 1.5 | 74.5 | 24.0 |
| Difference | | | 1.6 | -1.0 | -0.6 | 0.7 | -3.2 | 2.5 |
| 34 | 400 | 1000 | 27.6 | 88.6 | -16.3 | 0.7 | 75.1 | 24.2 |
| Difference | | | 4.9 | 19.3 | -24.2 | -0.7 | 0.6 | 0.2 |
| 35 | 350 | 1000 | 23.9 | 69.7 | 6.5 | 0.7 | 75.6 | 23.7 |
| Difference | | | -3.8 | -19.0 | 22.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 | -0.5 |
| Clean | | | 21.7 | 70.3 | 8.0 | 1.4 | 72.6 | 26.0 |
| 36 | 300 | 1000 | 11.5 | 71.4 | 17.1 | 1.3 | 63.9 | 34.9 |
| | | | - | | | | | |
| Difference | | | 10.2 | 1.1 | 9.1 | -0.2 | -8.7 | 8.9 |
| 37 | 250 | 1000 | 22.4 | 70.0 | 7.7 | 1.4 | 73.1 | 25.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.7 | -0.3 | -0.3 | 1.6 | 81.8 | 16.6 |
| 38 | 200 | 1000 | 24.0 | 70.1 | 5.9 | 1.4 | 72.6 | 26.0 |
| Difference | | | 1.6 | 0.1 | -1.7 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.5 |
| 39 | 200 | 1000 | 23.4 | 69.8 | 6.8 | 1.4 | 72.6 | 26.0 |
| Difference | | | -0.5 | -0.3 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 20.1 | 69.5 | 10.5 | 1.5 | 75.0 | 23.5 |
| 40 | 250 | 1000 | 23.2 | 69.1 | 7.7 | 1.5 | 74.0 | 24.5 |
| Difference | | | 3.2 | -0.4 | -2.8 | 0.0 | -1.0 | 1.0 |
| 41 | 300 | 1000 | 22.0 | 70.0 | 8.0 | 1.4 | 69.9 | 28.8 |
| Difference | | | -1.2 | 0.9 | 0.3 | -0.1 | -4.2 | 4.2 |
| 42 | 350 | 1000 | 18.5 | 71.2 | 10.3 | 1.5 | 74.5 | 24.0 |
| Difference | | | -4.7 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 0.0 | 0.5 | -0.5 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 43 | 400 | 1000 | 24.6 | 69.0 | 6.4 | 1.5 | 74.0 | 24.5 |
| Difference | | | 6.1 | -2.2 | -3.9 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.5 |
| Clean | | | 24.7 | 71.0 | 4.4 | 1.5 | 75.5 | 23.0 |
| 44 | 450 | 1000 | 23.7 | 69.9 | 6.4 | 2.1 | 71.2 | 26.7 |
| Difference | | | -1.0 | -1.1 | 2.1 | 0.6 | -4.4 | 3.8 |
| 45 | 500 | 1000 | 25.2 | 68.8 | 6.0 | 2.6 | 65.7 | 31.7 |
| Difference | | | 1.5 | -1.1 | -0.5 | 0.5 | -5.5 | 5.0 |
| Clean | | | 25.2 | 68.8 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| 46 | 550 | 1000 | 20.4 | 69.9 | 9.7 | 0.0 | 72.7 | 27.3 |
| Difference | | | -4.8 | 1.1 | 3.7 | 0.0 | -1.0 | 1.0 |
| Clean | | | 25.2 | 68.8 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 72.7 | 27.3 |
| 47 | 600 | 1000 | 25.0 | 69.5 | 5.5 | 2.7 | 69.3 | 27.9 |
| Difference | | | -0.2 | 0.7 | -0.5 | 2.7 | -3.3 | 0.6 |
| Clean | | | 21.8 | 70.8 | 7.3 | 0.0 | 72.2 | 27.8 |
| 48 | 650 | 1000 | 26.0 | 70.1 | 3.9 | 0.0% | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| Difference | | | 4.1 | -0.7 | -3.4 | 0.0 | 1.4 | -1.4 |
| 49 | 700 | 1000 | 20.4 | 70.8 | 8.8 | 0.0 | 77.2 | 22.8 |
| Difference | | | -5.6 | 0.7 | 4.9 | 0.0 | 3.6 | -3.6 |
| Clean | | | 26.0 | 70.1 | 3.9 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| 50 | 700 | 1000 | 26.9 | 69.7 | 3.4 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.9 | -1.1 | -1.6 | -1.6 | -1.6 | -1.6 |
| Clean | | | 24.9 | 69.6 | 5.5 | 0.0 | 76.7 | 23.3 |
| 51 | 650 | 1000 | 23.0 | 69.6 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| Difference | | | -1.9 | 0.0 | 1.9 | 0.0 | -3.0 | 3.0 |
| 52 | 600 | 1000 | 23.5 | 69.2 | 7.3 | 0.0 | 74.1 | 25.9 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -0.4 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 | -0.5 |
| Clean | | | 20.2 | 70.3 | 9.5 | 0.0 | 72.7 | 27.3 |
| 53 | 700 | 5000 | 23.5 | 68.2 | 15.6 | 0.7 | 72.2 | 27.1 |
| Difference | | | 3.3 | -2.2 | -1.2 | 0.7 | -0.5 | -0.2 |
| 53 | 650 | 5000 | 24.1 | 70.0 | 5.9 | 0.7 | 73.1 | 26.2 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Difference | | | 0.6 | 1.8 | 11.8 | 0.0 | 0.9 | -1.0 |
| Clean | | | 24.1 | 70.0 | 5.9 | 0.0 | 72.2 | 27.8 |
| 54 | 600 | 5000 | 23.5 | 70.6 | 5.9 | 1.4 | 70.8 | 27.9 |
| Difference | | | -0.5 | 0.6 | -0.1 | 1.4 | -1.5 | 0.1 |
| 55 | 550 | 5000 | 25.1 | 70.1 | 4.8 | 0.0 | 74.6 | 25.4 |
| Difference | | | 1.5 | -0.5 | -1.0 | -1.4 | 3.9 | -2.5 |
| Clean | | | 22.9 | 69.8 | 7.4 | 0.0 | 77.2 | 22.8 |
| 56 | 500 | 5000 | 23.3 | 69.7 | 7.0 | 0.7 | 73.1 | 26.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.5 | -0.1 | -0.4 | 0.7 | -4.1 | 3.4 |
| 57 | 450 | 5000 | 21.8 | 70.4 | 7.8 | 1.4 | 69.9 | 28.8 |
| Difference | | | -1.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.7 | -3.2 | 2.6 |
| Clean | | | 24.2 | 69.7 | 6.1 | 0.0 | 72.7 | 27.3 |
| 58 | 400 | 5000 | 23.5 | 70.2 | 6.3 | 0.0 | 67.4 | 32.6 |
| Difference | | | -0.8 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.0 | -5.3 | 5.3 |
| Clean | | | 21.8 | 69.9 | 8.3 | 0.0 | 72.7 | 27.3 |
| 59 | 650 | 5000 | 21.0 | 69.5 | 9.4 | 1.4 | 68.6 | 30.1 |
| Difference | | | -0.7 | -0.4 | 1.1 | 1.4 | -4.1 | 2.8 |
| Clean | | | 21.0 | 69.5 | 9.4 | 0.0 | 75.6 | 24.4 |
| 60 | 300 | 5000 | 24.4 | 69.1 | 6.5 | 0.0 | 73.6 | 26.4 |
| Difference | | | 3.3 | -0.5 | -2.9 | 0.0 | -2.0 | 2.0 |
| Clean | | | 22.2 | 69.3 | 8.5 | 0.0 | 75.1 | 24.9 |
| 61 | 250 | 5000 | 20.8 | 69.4 | 9.8 | 0.0 | 74.6 | 25.4 |
| Difference | | | -1.4 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.5 |
| 62 | 200 | 5000 | 24.0 | 69.7 | 6.3 | 1.4 | 72.6 | 26.0 |
| Difference | | | 1.8 | 0.4 | -2.2 | 1.4 | -2.5 | 1.1 |
| Clean | | | 23.1 | 70.7 | 6.2 | 1.7 | 86.0 | 12.3 |
| 63 | 200 | 1000 | 21.9 | 69.6 | 8.5 | 2.4 | 82.1 | 15.4 |
| Difference | | | -1.2 | -1.1 | 2.3 | 0.7 | -3.9 | 3.1 |
| Clean | | | 21.9 | 69.6 | 8.5 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| 64 | 250 | 1000 | 21.5 | 70.7 | 7.7 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Difference | | | -0.4 | 1.1 | -0.7 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| 65 | 300 | 1000 | 22.2 | 69.5 | 8.3 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.6 | -1.2 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 1.4 | -1.4 |
| Clean | | | 22.2 | 69.5 | 8.3 | 1.6 | 81.6 | 16.8 |
| 66 | 350 | 1000 | 23.7 | 70.1 | 6.2 | 1.6 | 81.0 | 17.4 |
| Difference | | | 1.6 | 0.6 | -2.1 | 0.0 | -0.6 | 0.6 |
| 67 | 400 | 1000 | 22.6 | 70.2 | 7.2 | 1.7 | 86.0 | 12.3 |
| Difference | | | -1.1 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.1 | 5.0 | -5.1 |
| 68 | 450 | 1000 | 23.0 | 69.7 | 7.3 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -0.5 | 0.1 | -1.7 | 3.6 | -1.9 |
| Clean | | | 21.7 | 70.2 | 8.1 | 1.5 | 76.0 | 22.5 |
| 69 | 500 | 1000 | 24.1 | 70.3 | 5.6 | 0.0 | 86.1 | 13.9 |
| | | | - | | | | | |
| Difference | | | 21.7 | -70.2 | -8.1 | -1.5 | -76.0 | -22.5 |
| Clean | | | 19.3 | 70.0 | 10.7 | 1.6 | 83.4 | 14.9 |
| 70 | 550 | 1000 | 25.0 | 69.6 | 5.4 | 1.5 | 77.6 | 20.8 |
| Difference | | | 5.7 | -0.4 | -5.3 | -0.1 | -5.8 | 5.9 |
| Clean | | | 18.6 | 70.8 | 10.6 | 1.6 | 83.4 | 14.9 |
| 71 | 600 | 1000 | 20.0 | 69.9 | 10.1 | 1.7 | 84.1 | 14.3 |
| Difference | | | 1.4 | -0.9 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.6 |
| Clean | | | 20.0 | 71.1 | 8.9 | 3.3 | 83.3 | 13.4 |
| 72 | 650 | 1000 | 22.6 | 70.4 | 7.0 | 1.7 | 86.0 | 12.3 |
| Difference | | | 2.7 | -0.8 | -1.9 | -1.6 | 2.7 | -1.1 |
| 73 | 700 | 1000 | 21.8 | 70.0 | 8.2 | 1.7 | 85.3 | 13.0 |
| Difference | | | -0.9 | -0.4 | 1.3 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.2 | 73.1 | 25.7 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 74 | 700 | 500 | 1.2 | 72.7 | 26.1 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | -0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 | -2.1 | 2.1 |
| Clean | | | 1.2 | 73.1 | 25.8 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| 75 | 600 | 500 | 1.2 | 72.7 | 26.1 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Difference | | | 0.0 | -0.4 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 1.2 | 72.7 | 26.1 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| 76 | 600 | 500 | 1.3 | 72.6 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 71.1 | 27.6 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 77 | 550 | 500 | 1.3 | 72.3 | 26.4 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 1.2 | -1.2 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 72.3 | 26.4 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| 78 | 500 | 500 | 0.9 | 71.5 | 27.6 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.5 | -0.8 | 1.2 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 79 | 450 | 500 | 1.1 | 72.3 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 1.1 | 0.8 | -1.0 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 80 | 400 | 500 | 1.5 | 71.4 | 27.2 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -1.0 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 81 | 350 | 500 | 1.4 | 72.4 | 26.3 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 1.0 | -0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 1.0 | 72.3 | 26.7 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| 82 | 300 | 500 | 1.0 | 72.6 | 26.3 | 0.0 | 86.8 | 13.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 0.4 | -0.4 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 0.0 | 0.4 | 26.7 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 83 | 250 | 500 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 97.7 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 1.2 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| 84 | 200 | 500 | 1.3 | 72.7 | 26.1 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.1 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.0 | 71.2 | 27.9 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| 85 | 200 | 500 | 0.9 | 73.1 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 1.9 | -1.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 0.9 | 73.1 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| 86 | 250 | 500 | 0.6 | 72.5 | 26.9 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.3 | -0.6 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 0.0% | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|
| 87 | 300 | 500 | 0.8 | 72.8 | 26.4 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | 0.3 | -0.6 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 88 | 350 | 500 | 0.8 | 72.1 | 27.1 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| 89 | 400 | 500 | 1.0 | 72.3 | 26.7 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | 0.3 | -0.4 | 0.0 | -3.3 | 3.3 |
| 90 | 450 | 500 | 1.0 | 72.4 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.7 | -2.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.7 | 72.8 | 25.5 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| 91 | 500 | 500 | 1.5 | 72.9 | 25.6 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 92 | 550 | 500 | 1.5 | 72.4 | 26.1 | 0.0 | 86.8 | 13.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | -0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | -1.4 | 1.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 71.1 | 27.5 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 93 | 600 | 500 | 0.6 | 86.4 | 12.9 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | -0.7 | 15.3 | -14.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 94 | 650 | 500 | 1.1 | 72.0 | 26.9 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| Difference | | | 0.4 | -14.4 | 14.0 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 95 | 700 | 500 | 1.0 | 72.4 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 0.7 | -0.7 |
| 96 | 700 | 5000 | 1.1 | 72.0 | 26.9 | 0.0 | 86.8 | 13.2 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | -0.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 | -2.8 | 2.8 |
| Clean | | | 1.1 | 72.4 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 97 | 700 | 5000 | 1.0 | 73.2 | 25.8 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 0.8 | -0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 71.8 | 26.9 | 0.0 | 90.3 | 9.7 |
| 98 | 650 | 5000 | 1.4 | 72.3 | 26.3 | 0.0 | 90.7 | 9.3 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.5 | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.4 | -0.4 |
| 99 | 650 | 5000 | 1.5 | 72.6 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.1 | 0.3 | -0.3 | 0.0 | -3.2 | 3.2 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Clean | | | 1.6 | 70.2 | 28.2 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 100 | 600 | 5000 | 1.4 | 73.4 | 25.2 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| Difference | | | -0.3 | 3.2 | -2.9 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 101 | 600 | 5000 | 1.3 | 72.9 | 25.8 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | -0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.7 | 71.5 | 26.8 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 102 | 550 | 5000 | 1.3 | 72.4 | 26.4 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | -0.4 | 0.9 | -0.5 | 0.0 | -2.1 | 2.1 |
| 103 | 500 | 5000 | 1.3 | 72.5 | 26.2 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | | | 1.4 | 71.1 | 27.5 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| 104 | 450 | 5000 | 1.4 | 73.0 | 25.6 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | 1.9 | -1.9 | 0.0 | 1.4 | -1.4 |
| 105 | 400 | 5000 | 1.3 | 72.0 | 26.7 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | 0.0 | -1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | -1.4 | 1.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.5 | 71.9 | 26.6 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| 106 | 350 | 5000 | 1.4 | 72.6 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 0.7 | -0.6 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 107 | 300 | 5000 | 1.2 | 72.8 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | | | -0.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -1.4 | 1.4 |
| Clean | | | 1.3 | 72.6 | 26.0 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| 108 | 250 | 5000 | 1.1 | 72.6 | 26.3 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 1.4 | -1.4 |
| Clean | | | 0.8 | 72.6 | 26.5 | 0.0 | 90.3 | 9.7 |
| 109 | 200 | 5000 | 1.1 | 72.8 | 26.1 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| Difference | | | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | | | 1.8 | 72.7 | 25.5 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| 110 | 200 | 500 | 1.5 | 73.3 | 25.2 | 1.7 | 88.0 | 10.2 |
| Difference | | | -0.3 | 0.6 | -0.3 | 1.7 | 0.6 | -2.3 |
| 111 | 650 | 500 | 1.6 | 71.7 | 26.7 | 0.0 | 85.5 | 14.5 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Difference | | | 0.1 | -1.5 | 1.5 | -1.7 | -2.6 | 4.3 |
| Clean | | | 1.9 | 71.9 | 26.3 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 112 | 400 | 500 | 1.7 | 72.5 | 25.8 | 1.7 | 87.3 | 10.9 |
| Difference | | | -0.2 | 0.6 | -0.6 | 1.7 | -2.2 | 0.5 |

Appendix D

Supplementary Information for Section 3.4

Photocatalytic reactions of CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature

D.1 Photocatalytic reaction of 500 L CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature.

| | XPS | | | AES | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| Trial 1 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 1.4 | 74.2 | 24.4 | 0.8 | 84.8 | 14.4 |
| 500 L CO ₂ | 2.0 | 73.4 | 24.6 | 1.7 | 88.0 | 10.2 |
| Difference | 0.6 | -0.8 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 3.3 | -4.2 |
| 500 L +UV | 1.0 | 74.4 | 24.6 | 0.0 | 81.7 | 18.3 |
| Difference | -1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | -1.7 | -6.3 | 8.0 |
| 500 L +10minUV | 0.7 | 76.5 | 22.8 | 4.0 | 82.0 | 13.9 |
| Difference | -0.3 | 2.1 | -1.8 | 4.0 | 0.3 | -4.3 |
| Clean | 1.5 | 74.7 | 23.8 | 0.7 | 75.6 | 23.7 |
| 500 L +20minUV | 1.1 | 75.0 | 23.8 | 0.0 | 75.6 | 24.4 |
| Difference | -0.4 | 0.3 | 0.1 | -0.7 | 0.1 | 0.7 |
| Trial 2 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 1.1 | 75.0 | 23.8 | 0.0 | 75.6 | 24.4 |
| 500 L CO ₂ | 2.1 | 72.8 | 25.1 | 1.5 | 78.7 | 19.7 |
| Difference | 1.0 | -2.3 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 3.1 | -4.6 |
| 500 L +UV | 2.0 | 73.7 | 24.3 | 1.5 | 78.7 | 19.7 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| Difference | -0.1 | 1.0 | -0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Clean | 1.3 | 75.3 | 23. | 0.0 | 80.5 | 19.5 |
| 500 L +10min UV | 1.0 | 75.2 | 23.8 | 0.0 | 81.1 | 18.9 |
| Difference | -0.2 | -0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.6 |
| Clean | 1.4 | 74.6 | 24.0 | 0.0 | 80.5 | 19.5 |
| 500 L+20 min UV | 1.0 | 75.4 | 23.6 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| Difference | -0.4 | 0.8 | -0.4 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| TRIAL 3 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 1.0 | 75.4 | 23.6 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| 500 L CO ₂ | 1.8 | 73.5 | 24.6 | 3.2 | 80.9 | 15.9 |
| Difference | 0.8 | -1.9 | 1.1 | 3.2 | -3.3 | 0.1 |
| 500 L +UV | 0.9 | 75.0 | 24.2 | 3.5 | 87.9 | 8.7 |
| Difference | -0.9 | 1.4 | -0.5 | 0.3 | 7.0 | -7.3 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 74.3 | 24.5 | 0.0 | 86.1 | 13.9 |
| 500 L +10minUV | 1.1 | 74.8 | 24.2 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | -0.1 | 0.5 | -0.4 | 0.0 | 2.0 | -2.0 |
| 500 L +20minUV | 1. | 73.3 | 25.7 | 1.7 | 84.1 | 14.3 |
| Difference | -0.1% | -1.4 | 1.5 | 1.7 | -4.1 | 2.5 |

D.2 Photocatalytic reaction of 1000 L CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature.

| | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| TRIAL 1 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 1.3 | 75.9 | 22.8 | 0.0% | 80.5 | 19.5 |
| 1000 L CO ₂ | 1.8 | 73.8 | 24.3 | 1.7% | 84.7 | 13.6 |
| Difference | 0.6 | -2.1 | 1.5 | 1.7% | 4.2 | -5.8 |
| Clean | 0.9 | 75.3 | 23.8 | 0.0% | 82.6 | 17.4 |
| 1000 L +UV | 0.3 | 75.9 | 23.8 | 0.0% | 85.5 | 14.5 |
| Difference | -0.5 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0% | 2.8 | -2.8 |
| 1000 L +10min UV | 1.1 | 76.4 | 22.5 | 0.0% | 82.3 | 17.7 |
| Difference | -0.2 | 0.5 | -0.3 | 0.0% | 1.8 | -1.8 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 73.9 | 24.9 | 0.8% | 85.4 | 13.8 |
| 1000 L +20min UV | 1.2 | 75.0 | 23.7 | 0.9% | 89.5 | 9.6 |
| Difference | 0.1 | 1.1 | -1.2 | 0.0 | 4.1 | -4.1 |
| TRIAL 2 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 1.1 | 75.6 | 23.4 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| 1000 L CO ₂ | 1.2 | 72.9 | 25.9 | 1.7 | 87.3 | 10.9 |
| Difference | 0.1 | -2.6 | 2.5 | 1.7 | 2.5 | -4.2 |
| Clean | 1.1 | 72.7 | 26.2 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| 1000 L +UV | 0.7 | 73.4 | 25.9 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| Difference | -0.4 | 0.7 | -0.3 | 0.0 | -0.6 | 0.6 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 74.9 | 23.9 | 0.0 | 85.5 | 14.5 |
| 1000 L +10min UV | 1.1 | 73.8 | 25.1 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| Difference | -0.1 | -1.1 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 3.4 | -3.4 |
| Clean | 1.0 | 74.5 | 24.6 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| 1000 L +20min UV | 1.0 | 73.6 | 25.3 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | 0.0 | -0.8 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| TRIAL 3 | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Clean | 1.2 | 75.4 | 23.3 | 0.0 | 88.9 | 11.1 |
| 1000 L CO ₂ | 1.7 | 72.8 | 25.5 | 3.4 | 85.2 | 11.4 |
| Difference | 0.4 | -2.6 | 2.2 | 3.4 | -3.7 | 0.3 |
| Clean | 1.1 | 75.1 | 23.8 | 0.0 | 86.8 | 13.2 |
| 1000 L +10min UV | 0.9 | 73.8 | 25.3 | 0.0 | 91.0 | 9.0 |
| Difference | -0.2 | -1.3 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 4.2 | -4.2 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 75.7 | 23.1 | 1.7 | 84.1 | 14.3 |
| 1000 L +10min UV | 1.2 | 73.5 | 25.3 | 0.0 | 93.3 | 6.7 |
| Difference | 0.0 | -2.2 | 2.2 | -1.7 | 9.3 | -7.6 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 75.8 | 23.0 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| 1000 L +20min UV | 1.2 | 73.3 | 25.5 | 0.0 | 92.5 | 7.5 |
| Difference | 0.0 | -2.5 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 8.4 | -8.4 |

D.3 Photocatalytic reaction of 5000 L CO₂ with TiO₂ at room temperature.

| | XPS | | | AES | | |
|------------------------|------|------|-------|-----|------|------|
| | C% | O% | Ti% | C% | O% | Ti% |
| Clean | 1.3 | 74.8 | 23.9 | 0.0 | 89.6 | 10.4 |
| 5000 L CO ₂ | 1.2 | 74.4 | 24.4 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| Difference | -0.1 | -0.3 | 0.4 | 0.0 | -1.4 | 1.4 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 52.1 | 46.7 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| 5000 L +UV | 1.1 | 75.1 | 23.8 | 1.8 | 90.2 | 8.1 |
| Difference | -0.1 | 23.0 | -22.9 | 1.8 | 2.7 | -4.5 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 74.4 | 24.4 | 0.0 | 88.2 | 11.8 |
| 5000 L+10min UV | 1.3 | 74.7 | 24.0 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | 0.1 | 0.4 | -0.4 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| Clean | 1.2 | 74.8 | 24.0 | 0.0 | 84.2 | 15.8 |
| 5000 L+ 20 min UV | 1.1 | 75.4 | 23.5 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | -0.1 | 0.6 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 3.3 | -3.3 |
| TRIAL 2 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 1.0 | 74.6 | 24.4 | 0.0 | 84.8 | 15.2 |
| 5000 L CO ₂ | 1.6 | 73.1 | 25.3 | 0.0 | 86.1 | 13.9 |
| Difference | 0.6 | -1.5 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 1.3 | -1.3 |
| Clean | 0.5 | 75.3 | 24.2 | 0.0 | 82.3 | 17.7 |
| 5000 L +UV | 0.5 | 73.1 | 26.4 | 0.0 | 86.8 | 13.2 |
| Difference | 0.0 | -2.2 | 2.2 | 0.0 | 4.5 | -4.5 |
| 5000 L+10min UV | 0.4 | 74.7 | 24.9 | 0.0 | 86.1 | 13.9 |
| Difference | -0.1 | 1.6 | -1.5 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |
| 5000 L+ 20 min UV | 0.9 | 73.4 | 25.7 | 0.0 | 82.9 | 17.1 |
| Difference | 0.5 | -1.3 | 0.8 | 0.0 | -3.2 | 3.2 |
| TRIAL 3 | | | | | | |
| Clean | 0.9 | 75.5 | 23.7 | 0.0 | 87.6 | 12.4 |
| 5000 L CO ₂ | 1.4 | 73.1 | 25.5 | 0.0 | 87.0 | 13.0 |
| Difference | 0.5 | -2.4 | 1.8 | 0.0 | -0.7 | 0.7 |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| 5000 L +UV | 0.8 | 74.3 | 24.9 | 0.0 | 89.7 | 10.3 |
| Difference | -0.6 | 1.2 | -0.7 | 0.0 | 2.7 | -2.7 |
| 5000 L+10min UV | 0.6 | 73.8 | 25.6 | 0.0 | 87.5 | 12.5 |
| Difference | -0.2 | -0.5 | 0.7 | 0.0 | -2.2 | 2.2 |
| 5000 L+ 20 min UV | 1.4 | 74.7 | 23.8 | 0.0 | 87.6 | 12.4 |
| Difference | 0.8 | 0.9 | -1.7 | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.2 |

Vita

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