

Effect of charge balance vacancies on the ultraviolet photocatalytic activity of Fe³⁺-doped anatase

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Routine X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements were performed on a powder sample ARL X'TRA Thermo Scientific diffractometer using Cu K_{α} radiation (wavelength $\lambda = 1.5418$ Å). All studied catalysts were found to be anatase type (space group $I4_1/amd$) single-phase polycrystalline materials. An XRD pattern of one of the studied catalysts is shown in Figure S1. Their specific surface area S_{BET} determined by the BET method was found to be $56 \div 58$ m² g⁻¹ and virtually not affected by the presence of the dopants used. Both ⁵⁷Fe and ¹²¹Sb Mössbauer spectra were recorded on a MS-1104 spectrometer and analyzed by a least-square fitting program. To perform resonant absorption measurements involving by far less popular the Mössbauer isotope ¹²¹Sb, the 8.5 keV escape peak, produced by Mössbauer gamma rays ($E_{\gamma} = 37.15$ keV) in a thin NaI(Tl) scintillator, was used. During the measurements both Ca^{121m}SnO₃ source and studied powder sample (absorber) were introduced into the hole of a copper bar immersed in a Dewar flask filled with liquid nitrogen. Under these conditions, the temperature of absorber was close to 100 K and thus allowed us to consider the spectral contributions of the eventually present chemically different species of antimony as an acceptable estimate of their abundances.

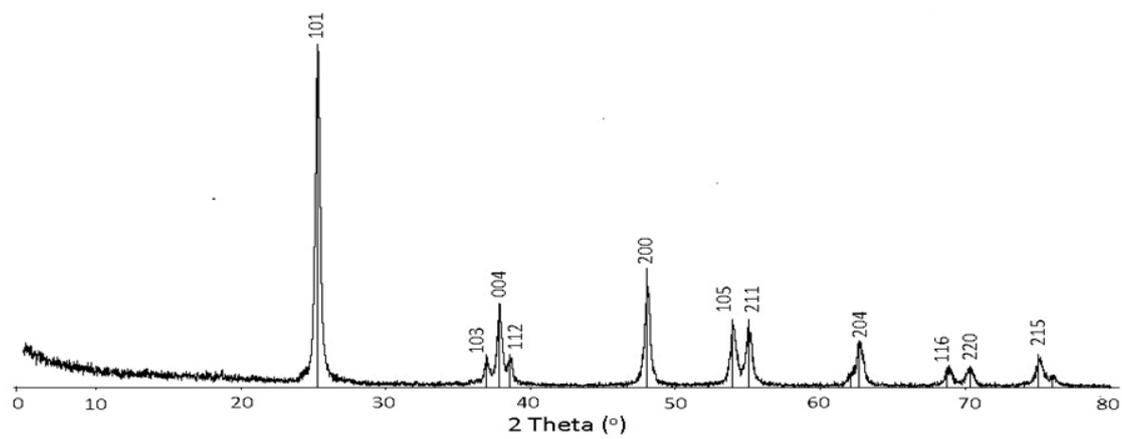


Figure S1 XRD pattern of the co-doped sample (2 at.% Fe³⁺+0.6 at% Sb⁵⁺):TiO₂.