INVESTIGATIONS ON ANATASE TO RUTILE TRANSFORMATION IN PRESENCE OF DIFFERENT METAL OXIDES AND ATMOSPHERES

THESIS SUBMITTED TO UNIVERSITY OF KERALA IN FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CHEMISTRY

UNDER FACULTY OF SCIENCE

BY

RIYAS.S

BEACH SAND MINERALS DIVISION REGIONAL RESEARCH LABORATORY (CSIR) TRIVANDRUM – 695 019 KERALA, INDIA.

OCTOBER 2004

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that, the thesis entitled "INVESTIGATIONS ON ANATASE TO RUTILE TRANSFORMATION IN PRESENCE OF DIFFERENT METAL OXIDES AND ATMOSPHERES" embodies the results of the investigations carried out by me under the joint supervision of Dr. P.N. Mohan Das and Dr. G. Krishnan and the same has not been submitted elsewhere for any degree.

2

S. RIYAS

:

OCTOBER 2004



Dr. P. N. MOHAN DAS M.Sc., Ph.D. DEPUTY DIRECTOR HEAD. BSMD REGIONAL RESEARCH LABORATORY (CSIR) TRIVANDRUM - 695019, INDIA

Phone	. (0471) 2515250
Fax	(0471) 2491712, 2490186
E-mail	. pnmd@rrlt.csir.res.in daspnm@rediffmail.com
Residence :	: Steinberg Trivandrum - 695019 Phone : (0471) 2490720

6th October 2004

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the work embodied in the thesis entitled "INVESTIGATIONS ON ANATASE TO RUTILE TRANSFORMATION IN PRESENCE OF DIFFERENT METAL OXIDES AND ATMOSPHERES" is an authentic record of the research work carried out by Mr. S. RIYAS under my supervision in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry of Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram and further that no part there of has been presented before for any other degree.

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(P.N. Mohan Das)

University College, Thiruvananthapuram Department of Chemistry

6th October 2004

Dr. G. Krishnan Reader and Head

:

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(G. Krishnan) 6.10.04

Dedicated to my beloved Parents and Teachers

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PREFACE

Among the oxide based nano particles, titanium dioxide (TiO_2) is a highly valuable material because of its optical and catalytic properties. Titania shows outstanding chemical stability, high refractive index, ultra-violet absorptivity and photo chemical activity which are expected to play a vital role in pigments, catalysts, ceramics etc: -

There are several industrially important reactions carried out using metal oxide doped titania as catalysts. Amorphous titania on heating transforms ' from metastable anatase to thermodynamically more stable rutile phase. This transformation is very important in selection of titania as a catalyst and as catalyst support. There is need for the study of kinetics of anatase-rutile transformation in doped titania. With this objective the project is selected for the Ph.D work. The Objectives of the research work are

- To prepare TiO₂ doped with transition metal oxides such as Fe₂O₃, NiO, Cr₂O₃, MnO₂ and CuO in different weight percentages (5 & 15%) using two different methods namely co-precipitation using hydrazine hydrate and wet-impregnation.
- To study the kinetics of anatase-rutile transformation in doped titania as a function of temperature and time using powder XRD studies in air and to compare the transformation in air with that in argon (inert) and hydrogen atmosphere (reducing)
- To find the surface area and crystallite size variations in titania with rutilation.
- To investigate the surface morphological changes of doped titania samples with rutilation.

To study the photo catalytic oxidation of toluene (in liquid phase) in presence of the prepared doped titania.

The lay out of the thesis is as follows.

Chapter I presents an introduction about the titania and metal oxide doped TiO_2 catalysts and the detailed literature review on anatase-rutile transformation.

The experimental part of the work including the preparation of doped titania and its characterization is given in chapter II.

Results and discussions are included in the Chapters III – VII.

Chapter VIII contains the results of toluene oxidation in photo catalytic path using the doped titania samples.

Chapter IX gives the summary and conclusions of the investigations. It is believed that the theoretical framework established in this work would contribute to the understandings of other important titania supported systems.

List of Publications

1. Crystal structure transformation of TiO₂ in presence of Fe₂O₃ and NiO in air atmosphere.

S.Riyas, V. Ahemed Yasir and P.N.Mohan Das, *Bull.Mater.Sci.*, 25, 4, 2002, 267-273.

2. Studies on the effect of Fe₂O₃ and Cr₂O₃ on anatase-rutile transformation in TiO₂.

S.Riyas and P.N.Mohan Das, Br.Ceram.Trans, 103, 2004, 23-28.

Polymorphism in TiO₂ under the influence of CuO and MnO₂.
 S. Riyas, G. Krishnan and P.N. Mohan Das

Acta Materialia (Communicated)

4. Rutilation in nickel oxide doped titania prepared by different methods.

S. Riyas, G. Krishnan and P.N. Mohan Das

Ceramics International (Communicated)

5. Influence of Transition Metal oxides on Crystallographic Rearrangement in TiO₂.

S.Riyas, Peter Koshy and P.N.Mohan Das

(Presented in XXV Annual Conference of the Electron Microscopy and Allied Fields, 20th to 22nd February **2002** at IIT Bombay-India)

- 6. Surface Morphology of Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ with rutilation
 P.N.Mohan Das, S.Riyas and Peter Koshy
 (Presented in XXVI Annual Conference of the Electron Microscopy and Allied Fields, 16th to 18th April 2003 at CPRI Shimla- India)
- Morphological changes of Nickel Oxide Supported on Titania with rutilation.
 S.Riyas, Peter Koshy and P.N.Mohan Das

(Presented in XXVII Annual Conference of the Electron Microscopy and Allied Fields, April 1-3 2004 at National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi - India)

INTRODUCTION

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1General Introduction

The element "Titanium" belonging to the group IV b of the modern periodic table was discovered by the Reverend William Gregor in 1790 [1]. In 1791 Gregor communicated to the journal de physique the description and chemical analysis of a black magnetic sand found in the parish of Menaccan, six miles south of Falmouth, in Corn Wall. The analysis showed almost 50 percent of a white metallic oxide, up to that time unknown to chemists [2]. The sand was given the name 'Menaccanite' from the locality, and the new metallic oxide recovered from it was 'christened menaccine' by Kirwan [3]. Berzelius [4], in his letters, mentioned Gregor several times in connection with his discovery, analysis and properties of mineral, and referred to him as a 'celebrated mineralogist'. In 1795, Klaproth [5] noticed the close agreement between Gregor's account of menaccine and the findings of his own investigations of the oxide extracted from "redschorl"(rutile) from Hungary. The identity of the two substances was soon established and Klaproth, acknowledging Gregor's priority, applied the temporary name 'Titanium' to the new element [6].

The world titanium minerals-Reserves and Production are summarized in table 1.1

Country	Reserves	Production
	$(x10^6 mt.TiO_2)$	(x10 ³ mt.ilmenite)
S.Africa	36.0	
Norway	32.0	930
India	31.0	150
China	30.0	150
Canada	27.0	
Australia	24.0	1692
USA	7.8	300
USSR	5.9	460
Sri Lanka	3.6	107
Brazil	1.6	144
Finland	1.4	
Malaysia	1.0	520

 Table 1.1. Titanium minerals-Reserves and Production (1989) [7]

Titanium is the ninth most abundant element in the earth's crust and is the fourth most abundant structural element [6]. Being highly reactive, it is always found combined with oxygen and other metal oxides and is never found in the metallic form in nature. Titanium is a persistent constituent of practically all crystalline rocks and of sediments derived from them. Of 800 igneous rocks analyzed in the laboratories of the United States geological survey, 784 contained the element. It is present in most minerals, and it makes up the principal metallic constituent in an important group, the most common of which are ilmenite, rutile, arizonite, perovskite, leucoxene and sphene or titanite. Titanium occurs as a minor constituent of most bauxities and all clays. Titanium has been found in a variety of sea creatures, animals, plants and human body. Plants contain a slightly higher proportion than animals. Titanium has been detected in hen's eggs, liver, brain, hair, nails and skin, nerve cells, kidney stones, silkworm tissues and embryos. [6]

It shows the characteristic valency of four, in addition to this di, tri and penta valent states are also reported in some compounds. Titanium forms oxides with all of the above mentioned valencies, or more specifically seven phases of its oxide exist with general formula TiO_{2n-1} . The value of 'n' ranges from 4 to 10. A wide range of possible compounds and structures exist in the Ti-O system, the dioxide is the most stable under ordinary conditions. Ilmenite is the most common mineral and its reserves are wide spread throughout the world including India. Indian ilmenite deposits are reported to be rich in TiO_2 content[6]. Titanium dioxide is a ceramic material, commonly known as titania.

1.2 Manufacturing processes of titania

Titanium dioxide pigments are manufactured by two processes[8] The sulphate process (extraction with sulfuric acid); and the Chloride process (extraction with chlorine).

In the Sulphate process ilmenite is treated with sulphuric acid. This converts metaloxides in to soluble sulphates, primarily of titanium and iron.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \text{FeTiO}_3 + 2\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 & \rightarrow & \text{TiOSO}_4 + \text{FeSO}_4 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \\ \text{Fe}_2\text{TiO}_5 + 4\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 & \rightarrow & \text{TiOSO}_4 + \text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 + 4\text{H}_2\text{O} \end{array}$$

After the resultant liquor has been allowed to settle to remove un reacted gangue minerals, a portion of the iron in solution is removed by cooling (crystallization)/centrigufation leaving a relatively clean titanium solution for the hydrolysis stage. The product from this stage is a microcrystalline oxide of titanium (Pulp) which is converted in to the required crystalline state by calcinations. The process can be used for the production of both anatase and rutile grade pigments, although it is more suited for the production of anatase grade. Intense research was undertaken in the sulphate process technology to improve particle size, particle size distribution and other parameters. The most important problem with the process has been disposal of the waste products which leads to pollution. Various solutions have been developed to overcome these problems.

The chloride process seems relatively straight forward, ie. Extraction of titanium by chlorine from a titaniferrous ore, or rutile followed by oxidation of the titanium tetrachloride so produced to titaniumdioxide and chlorine.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{TiO}_2 + 2\text{Cl}_2 & \underline{-\text{C}} & \text{TiCl}_4 + \text{CO}_2 \\ \text{TiCl}_4 + \text{O}_2 & & & & \\ \end{array}$$

The process is used mainly for rutile grade although some companies claim that the process could also be used to make anatase grade. The process was developed by Du-Pont, USA and the first commercial plant was installed in 1959. In the recent years particularly after 1960, all the new plants installed in USA have adopted chloride technology.

1.3 Industrial applications of TiO₂

Titania is one of the top 20 inorganic chemicals of industrial importance. Although it is used in some non-pigmentary applications, the chemical and industrial interests on TiO_2 are almost solely derived from its pigmentary properties. It has been used as a pigment from the very beginning of 20th century.[8]

The important properties of a pigment are i) opacity - the ability to opacify the medium to which it is applied or the surface on which it is dispersed, ii) hiding power - the power to obscure a background of contrasting colours either by absorption or by scattering, iii) tinting strength – the ability to lighten a colourant, iv) gloss - surface finish, v) chalking resistance - the resistance to the disintegration of organic binders, which results in the formation of powdery chalk or free pigment particles on the surface, etc. Most of the above mentioned properties are in some way or other, related to refractive index, particle size, surface area, etc. Better pigmentary properties are observed in the oxides having higher refractive index and surface area. Since anatase is highly photoactive compared to rutile, the disintegration of organic binder occurs in anatase based pigments in presence of u.v radiations or radiations having wavelength less than 400 nm. The coated surface becomes powdery and moves away by wind or rain there by exposing the underlying section for further attack, which leads to the fading of colour. For the same reason, anatase is reported to be 'poor' in some of the pigmentary properties.[8] Hence, anatase is usually preferred in interior paints, while rutile is preferred in exterior ones including enamels and emulsions. Since, both anatase and rutile have different physical properties, they cannot be substituted by each other, but in some applications both can be used. In addiction to the pigmentary uses of titania, about 100000 t a⁻¹are sold for non-pigment applications.

In the manufacture of quality papers, anatase is preferentially used as a filler - to fill the crevices between the paper fiber and as opacifier and brightner, to improve smoothness and printability. Since it is a wide band gap semiconductor, it can absorb u.v light and emit radiations of higher

wavelength, which is the main requirement for optical brightners.[8] Its lower density compared to that of rutile reduces the problems in handling of the paper at wet stage. It is less abrasive due to its lower hardness (compared to rutile), which results in lower consumption of cutting blades used in paper industry.[8]

The high refractive index and chemical inertness make TiO_2 an ideal pigment for plastics. Even though some plastics are used in their natural colours, most of them are blended with pigment to obtain attractive colours, as well to opacify them, Addition of rutile confers resistance to u.v degradation. Anatase grade is used in textile industry for de-lustering of synthetic fibres.[8] Addition of TiO_2 into ceramic materials improves their acid resistance and lowers the sintering temperature [9]. It also finds application in rubber, cosmetics, soap, pharmaceuticals, printing ink, roofing granules, floor coverings, etc.[8&9]

TiO₂ has found versatile applications in low as well as high temperature fields. Mesoporous TiO₂ electrodes are used in photovoltaic applications.[10] The microstructure of TiO₂ influences the photovoltaic response of the solar cell and thereby increases the overall efficiency of the system [10]. It is hence regarded as an important electrode material for extensive applications in low cost solar cells[11-13] and in electro chromics [14]. Photo excited TiO₂ has a strong ability in killing of cancer cells in vitro and vivo, which suggests that the cell killing effect could be adopted as one of the possible anti-cancer modalities.[15]In recent years, much effort has been focused towards the development of renewable energy conversion and storage devices. For economically and environmentally viable devices, the right choice of material is of crucial importance. An important material in this respect is TiO₂, whose combination of semi conducting as well as chemical stability makes it a suitable candidate for use in rechargeable lithium batteries [16-20]. Titania crystal lattice has the ability to accommodate charge in the form of small foreign ions, such as H⁺ and Li. [21] These ions can be inserted: and extracted from TiO₂ electrodes using an electric field as driving force through a process referred to as intercalation. The insertion of positively charged ions has to be balanced with an uptake of electrons to preserve overall charge neutrality [21]. For practical devices, the extent, reversibility and speed of intercalation are of prime importance. A common way to meet these demands is by using nano-structured electrodes. The large effective surface area provides a concomitant large number of adsorption sites for the intercalating ions [21].

Titania coatings have been studied for a wide variety of uses. such as antifouling, antibacterial, de-odourising and in wet type solar cells [11]. Because of high refractive index, dielectric constant, good oil absorption ability, tinting strength and chemical stability, even under strongly acidic or basic conditions, TiO_2 is used in optical coatings, beam splitters and in antireflection coatings [22-25]. The fabrication and characterization of titania thin films have attracted the attention of many researchers [26&27].

In view of its chemical stability, high refractive index and high dielectric constant, it has also got applications in opto-electronic devices,[28] optical wave-guides,[29] filters [29] and NO₂ gas sensors.[30] Because of its wide chemical stability and non-stoichiometric phase region, it shows different electrical characteristics with oxygen partial pressure, which makes it suitable for use in high temperature oxygen and humidity sensors in pure form or mixed with other metal oxides,[31-33] with enhanced mechanical properties

[34]. Titania based oxygen sensors can be used to monitor automobile engine performance and the feed back from the detector can control the air fuel ratio to give optimum low pollution performance [9].

Titania nano particles are widely used for the preparation of micro porous membranes,[35] which are used for the separation. with or without chemical reaction.[36&37] Layered hydrated titania ($H_2Ti_4O_9.nH_2O$) and some titanates can readily inter change with some alkali or alkaline earth metals,[38-40] because of which they find application in ion-exchange materials. The possibility of using hydrated titania as an ion-exchange agent for treatment of liquid radioactive wastes from nuclear reactor installations and for the separations of uranium from seawater has also been reported.[41&42]

Synthetic gems have been produced from rutile, since its refractive index is significantly higher than that of diamond, which makes it a very spectacular gem.[43] Strontium titanate gems under various trade names, viz. Fabulite and Wellington, are available in the world market.[9] Gemstone grade SrTiO₃ was first developed at the National Lead Company in mid 1950s.[44]

In recent years, significant developments took place in titania. These include ultrafine titanium dioxide for UV blocks in cosmetics and plastics, and novel optical effects, and high purity titanium dioxide for electro ceramics and catalysis.the traditional uses of titanium dioxide in ceramics are in vitreous enamels and in thread guides for the fibre industry. These applications have traditionally used pigmentary type titanium dioxide. Electro ceramic applications have imposed increasingly demanding specifications on titanium dioxide. These applications are based mainly on alkaline earth titanates. Barium titanate ceramics can have exceptionally high dielectric constants and are used as high performance capacitors capable of withstanding high voltage surges. Suitably doped titanate ceramics have large positive temperature coefficients of resistance and are widely used in positive temperature coefficient (PTC) thermistors which are incorporated in to heaters, power controls and to control currents. Typical products are made by the hydrolysis of high purity titanium tetrachloride.

Titanates, like barium titanate, lead titanate, lead zirconate titanate (PZT), lead lanthanum zirconate titanate (PLZT), barium strontium titanate (BST), strontium bismuth titanate (SBT), etc have found applications in ultrasonic transducers, radio and communication filters, medical diagnostic transducers, stereo tweeters, buzzers, gas igniters, positive temperature coefficient sensors, ultra sonic motors, electro-optic light valves, thin film capacitors and ferroelectric thin film memories.[45] The wide applications of BaTiO₃ include multi layer capacitor, thermistor, piezo electric actuator, non-linear resistor, thermal switch, passive memory storage device,[46] chemical sensor (due to its surface sensitivity to gas adsorption),[47] etc.

Titania has gained much attention in catalyst industry due to its applications as a catalyst or catalyst support for metal or metal oxide catalysts used in heterogeneous catalysis including photo catalysis of industrially and environmentally important reactions. Anatase is generally catalytically and photo catalytically more active than rutile, and for most of these applications anatase is used. The starting material may be derived from pigment production but careful control of sulphate and phosphate levels and dedicated calcination facilities are usually necessary. The growing demands for more efficient catalysts justify the consequent costs.

1.4 Properties of Titania.

The first successful attempt to produce relatively pure TiO_2 was made by Rossi in U.S.A in 1908. In 1912 Barton and Rossi undertook a systematic research programme to investigate titanium compounds for making pigments. They produced a composite BaSO₄ and CaSO₄ pigment containing about 25% TiO₂. Their efforts were immediately a commercial success [7].

As the stable dioxide, TiO_2 exists in three polymorphs, corresponding to the naturally occurring mineral anatase, rutile and brookite respectively. The word rutile comes from the latin rutilus, which means reddish. The name is fitting because rutile is commonly a brilliantly red or black mineral. Out of these, rutile is the thermodynamically most stable form. Anatase and brookite are meta stable, which readily get transformed to rutile on calcinations at higher temperature [8]. All three forms exist as minerals, though brookite is rare. Because of their high refractive index, lack of absorption of visible light, ability to be produced in the correct size range, chemical stability and nontoxicity, both anatase and rutile are produced commercially and have become the world's predominant white pigments. Brookite can be synthesized hydro thermally but has no technological importance as it has no advantages to compensate for the more difficult synthesis.

The crystal form of rutile and anatase has arrangement in which titanium atoms are surrounded by six oxygen atoms in approximately regular but slightly different octahedral arrangement and each oxygen atom is surrounded by three adjacent titanium atoms and have the formula TiO_2 . In the rutile structure, octahedra are turned through 90 degrees and a twist of 45 degrees from one layer to the next, where as in anatase structure they retain their orientation in all layers. Because of their tetragonal symmetry, both anatase and rutile are anisotropic. The important properties of anatase and rutile in crystal form are summarized in Table 1.2

Sl.No	Property	Anatase	Rutile
1	Crystal structure	Tetragonal	Tetragonal
	a, nm	0.3785	0.4593
	c, nm	0.9514	0.2959
2 3	Density, (gm m ⁻³)	3.84-3.87	4.24-4.26
3	Refractive index		
ı	Air	2.5	2.7
	Water	1.9	2.1
	Oil	1.7	1.8
4	Dielectric constant	48	114
5	Hardness	5-6	6-7
6	Band gap (ev)	3.25	3.05
7	Chalking Resistance	Poor	Good
8	Tinting Strength	1200-1300	1650-1900
9	Melting point	Converts to	1830-1850
		rutile	
		1	

 Table 1.2. The important properties of anatase and rutile [6,8&48]

The predominant commercial phase of titanium dioxide is anatase, although it is rarely found in ore form. Anatase has a tetragonal crystal structure in which the Ti-O octahedra share four corners, as shown in figure1.1A. Rutile has a crystal structure similar to that of anatase, with the exception that the octahedra share four edges instead of four corners. This leads to the formation of chains which are subsequently arranged in a four fold symmetry, as shown in figure 1.1B A comparison of two crystal structures shows that rutile is more densely packed than anatase. As a point of reference, the densities of the anatase and rutile phases are known to be 3.899g/cm³ and 4.250g/cm³, respectively [49]



Figure 1.1A. Crystal structure of Anatase.

Figure, 1.1B. Crystal structure of rutile



Brookite has an ortho rhombic crystal and spontaneously transforms to rutile around 750° C. Its mechanical properties are very similar to those of rutile.

A Variety of solids exhibit transformation from one crystal structure to another as the temperature or pressure is varied. This phenomenon is known as polymorphism. It was reported that nano crystalline solids which occur as polymorphs of low density can be expected to transform to a dense polymorphic form at high pressure and temperature. [50] As mentioned earlier, titania also exhibits polymorphism, i.e. it exists in three crystal modifications, viz. anatase, brookite and rutile. [51] The structural differences between anatase and rutile make the transformation irreversible.

Anatase to rutile transformation in titania is very important in deciding its applicability as a catalyst support. Also the properties of the titania are determined by the phase composition and the particle size of each phase. The phase composition and the particle size evolve as functions of time during heat treatment. Quantitative analysis of the transformation kinetics of amorphous titania to anatase has only been attempted in liquid media under hydrothermal conditions.[52] The rate for the transformation of amorphous titania particles in air is different from that in liquid media.[53]

The anatase to rutile transformation involves an over all contraction of the oxygen structure and a movement of ions, so that a cooperative rearrangement of $Ti^{4\tau}$ and $O^{2\tau}$ ions occurs. To say more specifically, two of the six Ti - O bonds of anatase break and re-unite in a slightly distorted manner, to form rutile structure. It has been proposed that [54-56] the removal of oxygen ions, which generates lattice vacancies, accelerates the transformation and hence, the cations, having the valency less than four, which correspondingly increase the oxygen vacancy, would enhance the transformation.[54] Because of its irreversible nature, there is no phase equilibria involved in this transformation and hence, does not have any specific transition temperature.[51]

Depending upon the characteristics of anatase, its preparation impurity contents, [57-63] deviation from stoichiometry, [59] method. atmosphere of calcination, [54-56&62] etc, a wide variation in rutilation temperature is reported. The high temperature diffusion technique used to form homogeneously doped TiO₂ easily causes the complete structural transformation of anatase to rutile. [64] Investigations on the effect of dopants on this transformation revealed that, normally, anions like sulfate and nitrate would inhibit rutilation, while phosphate and chloride enhance the same.[6] The alkaline [54&57] and some transition metal cations like Fe³⁻, [51, 57, 61, 62,65&66]Cu²⁺,[54,57&67] Mn⁴⁺ [57,65&67] Co²⁺, [65]Ni²⁺, [65] Zn²⁺ [68]etc are reportedly enhancing the transformation. Addition of AlCl₃ enhanced rutilation by increasing the primary particle size and rate of sintering.[63] Dopants like SnCl₄ enhanced rutilation, since both tin and titanium are in octahedral coordination with oxygen and also due to the formation of SnO₂ with rutile structure during calcination, which in turn acts as rutile nuclei.[63] According to Diing *et al*,[66] SnO₂ enhances rutilation by reducing either the onset temperature or the transformation temperature range. Most of the authors unanimously agreed [54,56,57,61&62] that the enhancement or inhibiting effect of additives is dependent on their ability to enter TiO₂ lattice, there by creating oxygen vacancies or interstitial Ti³⁺ ions respectively. The colour change observed in pure anatase during rutilation is an indication of oxygen loss to form lattice defects.[6] These lattice defects act as colour centers.[56]

Riyas *et al* [69] reported that both NiO and Fe_2O_3 enhance rutilation in the order NiO> Fe_2O_3 . The activation energies for the transformation were found lowered very much while doping NiO and Fe_2O_3 .

Several researchers have investigated the effects of different atmospheres on the anatase-rutile transformation, with somewhat conflicting results. Studies have shown that in vacuum conditions, the transformation was inhibited due to the presence of interstitial Ti^{3r} ions.[54&56] Lida *et al* [65] have reported that the transformation rate was increased in hydrogen atmosphere due to the formation of oxygen vacancies. MacKenzie found that reducing atmospheres such as steam, a H₂/N₂ mixture (5%-95% respectively), and vacuum (10⁻¹Pa) yield the formation of large aggregates of rutile.[70] MacKenzie's results are contradicted by those of Czanderna *etal*, who found that the rate of the anatase-rutile transformation was unaffected by the presence of a vacuum. Furthermore, Shannon and Pask reported that the anatase-rutile transformation was retarded in vacuum.[71] They proposed that titanium interstitials were created rather than oxygen vacancies, thus inhibiting the transformation instead of facilitating it.

Gamboa and Pasquevich reported on the effect of air/argon and Cl_2 /argon atmosphere on the anatase-rutile transformation. [72] The samples were calcined in different atmospheres for a range of time intervals. At 950^oC the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be 300 times slower in the air/argon atmosphere than in the Cl_2 /argon atmosphere. Gamboa and Pasquevich reported that after four hours in either air or argon, only up to 5% of the anatase transformed to rutile, and even after 48 hours the transformation was not complete. This is contradicted in part by the studies of MacKenzie that show 10 - 15% transformation to rutile within 30 minutes in an air-argon

atmosphere, at 1000[°]C.Gamboa and Pasquevich proposed that chlorine assists both vapor mass transport, which is a possible mechanism for nucleation on the solid surface, and oxygen vacancy formation, which assists nucleation and growth in the bulk material. They proposed that when the chlorine partial pressure is sufficiently high, it might assist dissolution of anatase and recrystallization of rutile by the following mechanism:

 $TiO_2(anatase) + 2Cl_2(g) \rightarrow TiCl_4(g) + O_2(g)$

 $TiCl_4(g) + O_2 \leftrightarrow TiO_2(rutile) + 2Cl_2(g)$

The idea of oxygen vacancy formation catalyzing the anatase-rutile transformation was discussed earlier, and this again was the mechanism proposed by Gamboa and Pasquevich to explain the observed effects of adsorbed chlorine on the system.

Similar observations were put forward by many authors.[54-56] Gennari *et al* [61&62] claimed an enhanced rutilation in presence of Fe₂O₃ in **air**, and chloride atmospheres. In general chemically reducing atmosphere enhances the transition by formation of oxygen vacancies in the anatase lattice, which in turn favours the rupture of Ti–O bonds necessary for crystallographic rearrangement.[54,56&67] Significant grain growth has been reported in TiO₂ during this transformation by different authors.[75-77,56&57,65-68,73&74] Mackenzie *et al* [74] have shown that those reaction atmospheres, which favour the formation of rutile also favour the particle growth. Yoganarasimhan and Rao[59] claimed a marked increase in crystallite size and particle size in the region of transformation due to the expansion of unit cell of anatase prior to the transformation. According to them smaller particle size and larger surface area would favour the transformation. Rao[78] classified this transformation under nucleation and growth mechanism. **Gamboa** et al [56] also agreed with this mechanism. Reddy et al [79] demonstrated that the formation of gaseous TiCl₄ is responsible for TiO₂ grain growth occurring at a faster rate in chloride atmosphere than in air. Nobile jr [73] concluded by his studies on iron doped TiO₂ that the TiO₂ grain growth and rutilation are simultaneous processes and are inter-related. He argued with the support of a mechanism that, the Ti³⁺ ions formed on the surface of TiO₂ were responsible for enhancement of rutilation. Many authors.[54.59.61&67] also investigated the kinetics of anatase to rutile transformation.

Study of the effects of preparation method and titanium precursor on the resulting titania crystal structure has not been comprehensive. The effects of sulfate and chloride solutions were studied and reported by Wilska in 1954 [80]. He found that although the initially dried products were always amorphous, the first crystalline forms present varied with preparation method and precursor solution. Samples originating from sulfate solutions always gave the anatase structure, while samples produced from the boiling of chloride solutions always gave the rutile structure. Other methods of synthesis such as hydrolysis of phosphate solutions or hydrolysis at room temperature gave either the anatase structure or a mixture of both the anatase and the rutile structure. Wilska found that an amorphous phase always existed prior to the crystalline phase, even in the cases of direct rutile formation. No mechanism was proposed to explain the different effect of sulfate and chloride precursors on the phase transformation.

A kinetic effect of particle size on the anatase-rutile phase transformation has been proposed by Gribb and Banfield [81]. The critical size effect applicable to titanium dioxide is summarized by Kumar [82], who used it to explain the initiation of the anatase-rutile transformation. Kumar found that both the grain sizes of rutile and the rutile content increased with increasing time and temperature of calcination. They found significant particle-size effect on the anatase-rutile transformation rate in nanocrystalline titania whereby an increase in reaction rate was associated with a decrease in particle size. Three rate-limiting factors were offered as explanation, each relating particle size to a change in reaction rate:

1) Potential Nucleation Sites: Due to purely geometrical effects, the overall number of potential surface nucleation sites per unit volume increases with a decrease in particle size. As the number of potential sites per unit volume increases, it would logically follow that the number of surface nuclei increases, increasing the rate of phase transformation.

2) Driving Force: The driving force for a phase transformation is the difference in free energies between the reactant and product phases. Gribb and Banfield cited experimental evidence suggesting that anatase has a lower surface energy than rutile and therefore would imply that as crystallite size decreases, so does the driving force, which would result in a reduced reaction rate. This is inconsistent with the experimental data provided by Gribb and Banfield and was therefore discounted as a reasonable explanation.

3) Strain Energy: Since the molar volume of rutile is 8-10% less than that of anatase, there is likely to be strain energy associated with the phase transformation. Because of differences in surface tension and hydrostatic-like pressure on smaller crystallites, this strain energy may be affected by particle size. As particle size decreases, the surface tension and hydrostatic-like pressures would potentially reduce the strain energy, reducing one of the barriers to transformation. Upon consideration of experimental data that included the examination of both nanocrystalline and macrocrystalline titanium dioxide, Gribb and Banfield concluded that the number of nucleation sites was the most probable cause of the increase in reaction rate with decreasing particle size.

Synthesis methods for the production of nanostructured materials vary widely between laboratories and researchers. One common approach, however, is to combine a metal salt solution with a precipitating agent. The result is a precipitant slurry containing a mixture of solid particles suspended in a liquid. In the conventional case, the particles are an oxide precursor, such as a hydroxide, which can then be converted to the oxide by calcining at elevated temperatures [83&84]. One method that can potentially produce nanometer-sized grains in the solid oxide involves exposing those particles to a tremendous amount of shear stress and in situ calcination. The effect of shear is to produce a nanometer-sized, fine, crystalline solid. In situ calcination causes the decomposition of any residual salts such as sulfates, nitrates, and chlorides [84]. The result is a metal oxide slurry which can be dried to a powder. Most of the research conducted in order to accomplish this strategy has focused on the use of cavitation to provide both the shear force and the in situ calcination.

Suslick and co-workers [85] performed much of the early work exploring the effects of acoustic cavitation on materials synthesis. Using ultrasound, Suslick generated acoustic waves to produce the desired cavitational effects. His studies provide insight into the microscopic effects of cavitation on solid particles. Suslick asserts that the effects of ultrasonicinduced cavitation on metal powders are radical changes in particle morphology, significant agglomeration of particles, and a reduction in passivating surface oxide coatings. Cavitation in liquids generates implosive bubble collapse and associated shock waves. If the bubbles collapse near an extended solid surface, localized high-speed jets of liquid impinge on the surface of the solid. If small solid particles exist in a slurry these smaller particles do not interrupt the cavitation process. Essentially the solid is suspended on the surface of the bubble before the bubble implodes. Normal cavitational collapse occurs. As this occurs, solid particles suspended on the surface of the bubble collide. The collisions that occur as results of cavitation afford a tremendous amount of in situ thermal treatment and an exceptional degree of shear leading to good mixing.

Suslick reports temperatures as high at 5000°C when using a high powered ultrasonic probe to induce cavitational effects [85]. Cavitation has also been shown by Moser to produce smaller grain sizes in a variety of oxide systems, but only in the case of mechanically induced cavitation, not acoustic [83]. The effect of acoustic cavitation on the grain size of nanostructured metal oxides was studied in depth by Emerson et al [84] using a synthesis technique similar to the one used by Moser. Emerson found that while acoustic cavitation generally has a minor effect on the grain size and phase purity of most metal oxide catalysts, it has a more dramatic, yet still minor, effect on the grain size of titania. The observed effect was a 1-2 nm reduction in grain size upon exposure to the ultrasound. Since this contradicts other results in the literature, Emerson offered a few explanations for his observations. Firstly, the rate of precipitation in the studied systems is very high. Since one of the major benefits of acoustic cavitation is an increased precipitation rate, acoustic cavitation would be less effective on a system with an already high precipitation rate. Secondly, acoustic waves from the tip of the ultrasonic probe have a tendency to propel objects away from the tip, so it is not
inconceivable that precipitates are pushed from the probe and avoid the effects of cavitation [84].

Hence, it is currently an important and active topic of research among material scientists, even though there exists a vast number of literature dealing with the basic aspects of this transformation. The anatase - rutile transformation has been shown in the literature to be affected by a large number of processing variables, including dopants and impurities, atmosphere, precursor, particle size, and synthesis method. However, this review of the literature showed that results from previous studies are often contradictory. Furthermore, the relative influence of each of these variables appears to have been not studied. Therefore, the focus of this work was the exploration of these variables and their individual as well as group effects on the phase transformation.

In spite of large number of literature available on this transformation, there is no systematic data available dealing with anatase to rutile transformation in presence of different percentages of dopants prepared under different methods. Also most of the studies were carried out by impregnating the metal ions on to crystalline TiO_2 and in some cases, [51,59,61&67] a smaller percentage of rutile was already present in TiO_2 even before loading metal oxides. All these would undoubtedly affect the investigation.

1.5 Some catalytic Reactions of metal oxides supported on titania.

Catalyzed reactions form the basis of many industrial chemical processes. Catalyst manufacture is itself a rapidly growing industrial process.

1.5.1. Hydro de sulfurisation (HDS)

The removal of sulfur from sulfur containing feedstock, as H_2S is known as hydro de-sulfurisation, which is an important process used in petroleum industry and is one of the most widely studied branches of catalysis. The most common catalysts employed are molybdena-alumina catalyst.[86] Molybdena supported on TiO₂ is reported by a few researchers[87-89] for this reaction. It has been shown that at low molybdena loading, titania supported catalysts are more active than alumina supported ones. Takeuchi *et al* [90&91] reported HDS of thiophene in naphtha on Ni-Mo-TiO₂ catalyst and is reported to be more active than alumina supported ones. Matsuda *et al*[92] used MoO₃/TiO₂ catalyst for H₂S adsorption and removal from waste gas streams or from natural gas. The important advantage, they claimed was that, the adsorbent can be regenerated easily by passing oxygen through the adsorbent bed. One of the important advantages of TiO₂ based catalyst is sulfided prior to use, but TiO₂ based catalyst showed a high activity without pre-sulfidation.

1.5.2. Partial oxidation (Selective oxidation)

Partial oxidation is an interesting and promising approach for producing synthesis gas from methane and oxygen or air to give hydrogen and CO with a ratio suitable for Fischer-Tropsch synthesis and methanol synthesis. Ir/TiO₂ is reported to be a better catalyst for this reaction.[93]

The effect of TiO₂ supported catalysts in selective catalytic oxidation of hydrocarbons is currently a topic of investigation. There have been numerous investigations on V_2O_5/TiO_2 catalysts. This catalyst was reported for selective oxidation of furan to maleic acid.[94] The selectivity was determined by the number of V_2O_5 layers on the support. A high selectivity was reported with five layers of V_2O_5 over TiO₂.[93] V_2O_5/TiO_2 possesses high activity and selectivity in processes of industrial importance, such as, oxidation of oxylene[95-99] and naphthalein [100] to phthalic anhydride. Conversion of buta diene[95] and benzene[101&102] to maleic anhydride, and oxidative ammonolysis of various hydrocarbons[103-105] are also reported over this catalyst. Reddy et al [106] reported that, this catalyst is quite superior to other alternatives due to their high activity and resistance to SO₂ poisoning. It is generally accepted that the active phase is the vanadia part of the catalyst and the most appropriate support is anatase.[96-99] Many scientists, put several hypotheses forward to explain the unique activity of this catalyst. Thus, Vejux and Courtine [107] have noted that there is crystallographic fitting between the (010) face of V_2O_5 and the prevailing anatase planes (001), (100) and (010). Thus there is a possibility of epitaxial growth of V₂O₅ during its deposition with predominant exposure of the (010) vanadia face, characterized by the presence of V = O groups[108] and these groups are responsible for the enhancement of selective oxidation.[108] Bond et al [109] proposed that at low vanadia content, isolated tetrahedral hydroxo vanadyl groups are formed. The peculiar catalytic properties of this catalyst are due to the joint effect of an easily reducible V = O bond and an acid hydroxyl group from the same active centers.[98] Spectroscopic studies of sub monolayer coverages of vanadia on titania have shown that the dispersed vanadia is present as a combination of monomeric vanadyl and polymeric vanadate species, [110-114] with distribution of both these structures varying with vanadia loading[114] and when the vanadia loading was raised above the dispersive capacity of the titania support, crystallites of V₂O₅ were formed.[111-113&115]

 V_2O_5 supported on TiO₂-ZrO₂[116] or TiO₂-SiO₂ [106] mixed oxides was also proposed for the improved selective catalytic oxidation reactions. Murakami *et al* [101] and Inomata *et al* [102] reported the benzene oxidation over titania and alumina supported ones with the following order $V_2O_5/TiO_2 >$ $V_2O_5 > V_2O_5/Al_2O_3$ and the activation energy for this reaction on V_2O_5/TiO_2 was reported to be much smaller (ca. 80 KJ/mol) than that on unsupported V_2O_5 (ca. 92 KJ/mol) or on V_2O_5/Al_2O_3 (ca.120 KJ/ mol). These data indicate the promoting effect of TiO₂ support. In spite of the catalyst containing V_2O_5 on titania has been the subject of considerable interest due to its successful application in selective catalytic oxidation reactions; the nature of active species taking part in the reaction is still controversial.

1.5.3. Carbon monoxide hydrogenation

Catalytic hydrogenation of CO is a profoundly important reaction widely exploited by many chemical industries for the production of gasoline, alcohol, methane and other higher hydrocarbons. This reaction for the synthesis of long chain hydrocarbon is referred to as Fischer-Tropsch synthesis. Group VIII metals supported on silica, alumina or titania are generally used.[117] But depending on the metal used, the product would be different. The selectivity of this reaction varied with support material.[118]

Carbon monoxide hydrogenation using Fe/TiO₂ catalyst led to the formation of methane.[119-121] while Rh/TiO₂ gave methanol and other hydrocarbons.Methane was reported to be formed over Ni catalyst.[118] Sebatier won Nobel prize in 1912 for the successful production of methane over unsupported Ni catalyst.[118] Sen *et al* [122] and Vannice *et al* [123] reported Ni/TiO₂ catalyst with better activity for methanation than unsupported one and Ni/SiO₂. Smith *et al* [124] also strongly supported the above observation.

The CO and hydrogen chemisorption behaviour of Ni/TiO₂ was investigated by many researchers [124-127]. The chemisorption was reported to be decreasing in the catalyst reduced at high temperature (ca.> 500° C). The

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peculiar behaviour of this catalyst was due to SMSI as discussed earlier, which was induced during high temperature reduction.[124] The titania moieties migrated to the Ni surface during reduction would reduce the sticking coefficient of CO adsorption.[124&126] So, it is very clear that the rate of CO adsorption is strongly dependent on the support material [124] and change of support would change the rate of CO hydrogenation.[124]. Rabo *et al* [128] investigated the methanation using Ni over a range of supports and made a conclusion that the specific activity for hydrogenation would be in the order Ni/TiO₂ > Ni/Al₂O₃ > Ni/SiO₂rAl₂O₃ > Ni/SiO₂.

Many researchers have reported high activity in CO hydrogenation to synthesize gasoline, over alloy catalysts, like 42Ni29Fe29Co and 50Co50Ni supported on TiO_2 .[129-132]

1.5.4. Selective catalytic reduction of NO_x (SCR)

The emission of NO_x from power plants, nitric acid plant and from other industries caused serious environmental problem. So, the removal of NO_x is particularly important from a standpoint of pollution control.

Selective catalytic reduction using NH₃ is the most commonly used method to abate NO_x emission and was commercialized in recent years. By the end of 1982, about hundred plants have been constructed and are operating in Japan.[133] In early stages of development of the NO_x reduction process, several base metal oxide catalysts, such as oxides of Fe, Fe-Cr and Fe/Al, were reported[133] with high activity. These catalysts, however, lost their activity in a few hundred hours, due to SO_x poisoning, which was present along with NO_x. Hence, the commercialization of SCR of NO_x was not realized until the advent of TiO₂ based catalysts, which are resistant to sulfur poisoning and were reported to be maintaining their activity for more than five years.[133] So, now, TiO_2 has become a catalyst support of choice for this reaction. A number of Japanese[134&135] and US[136] patents available on TiO_2 based NO_x reduction catalyst disclose this fact more clearly.

The SCR catalysts are mainly composed of TiO₂ and the second component selected from V₂O₅, MoO₃, Fe₂O₃, CoO, NiO, MnO₂, Cr₂O₃, CuO, etc. On the whole, a catalyst composed of TiO₂ and one of the n-type semiconductor (V₂O₅, MoO₃, Fe₂O₃, etc) showed high activity for NO - NH₃ reaction, while a catalyst composed of TiO₂ and one of the p-type semiconductor (CoO, NiO, etc) showed high acivity for NO₂ - NH₃ reaction.[133] But, NO₂ - NH₃ reaction was also reported on V₂O₅/TiO₂ catalyst.[137] A large number of literature are available on the investigation of the surface structure of V₂O₅/TiO₂ catalyst and its NO_x reduction capacity.[137-152] The high activity of this catalyst is attributed to the nature of the adsorption sites on the catalyst surface.

Inomatha and co-workers[138-141] found that the sites responsible for the catalytic activity of bulk as well as supported vanadia towards the NO -NH₃ reaction in presence of oxygen are the V⁵⁻= O groups, whose concentration is directly related with activity. On the basis of isotopic transient studies Jannsen *et al* [142&143] proposed dual site mechanism for this reaction with the participation of two neighbouring V⁵⁺= O species as active sites. On the other hand, Gasier *et al* [144] concluded that not the V = O species, but the acid hydroxyl group, i.e. V— OH group, present on vanadia surface could be the active site. But, Topsoe *et al* [145] noted that the V = O species are also involved in this reaction along with V — OH group. Some others believe, on the contrary, that amorphous disordered multiple layer of V₂O₅ are present on the whole surface.[141,146&147] Isolated monovanadate structures have been detected at low vanadia coverage on SiO₂, Al₂O₃, TiO₂, ZrO₂ and HfO₂ supported vanadia catalysts by some authors.[111,148&149] According to them, VO_x species condense into chain or 2D domains and ultimately into bułk V₂O₅ crystallites as VO_x loading was increased. Eckert *et al* [111] and Coustemer *et al*,[150] by spectroscopic studies revealed that V⁵⁻ centers evolve from tetrahedral coordination at low coverage to octahedral coordination at higher coverage on TiO₂ and Al₂O₃. In spite of these investigations on this catalyst, there is still no agreement on the nature of the active sites and the mechanism of the NO_x reduction process,[150] but, it is generally accepted that the vanadia part of the catalyst is essential for this reaction.

1.5.5. Coal liquefaction

Concern about the supply of clean burning fuels has stimulated interest in coal liquefaction process. The conversion of coal to liquid fuel involves increasing the hydrogen content of the material. In the liquefaction process it is not sufficient to break down the coal structure into the basic condensed ring units, but it must be broken to yield a product that is liquid at room temperature.[75]

Tanabe *et al* [76] reported direct hydrogenation of coal using various metal oxide catalysts, including TiO₂ based ones, such as, MoO₃/TiO₂ and Fe₂O₃/TiO₂. Hydrogenation of coal was carried out under a pressure of 100 Kg/cm³ and a temperature of 400^oC. The ratio of benzene soluble fraction from hydrogenated coal reached 68% for MoO₃/TiO₂ compared to 51% for MoO₃/SiO₂. These results suggest that TiO₂ is not only acting as a support, but also promoting the hydro cracking activity.

1.5.6. Ammonia synthesis

The gas phase equilibrium reaction between hydrogen and nitrogen to form NH_3 is well known to chemists as the basis of the famous Haber - Bosch process, which represents the typical example for a heterogeneously catalyzed reaction. Practical catalysts are multifunctional catalysts, which consist mainly of the reduced form of Fe₃O₄ doped with small percentage of Al₂O₃, K₂O, CaO, SiO₂ and MgO.[118]

Aika *et al*,[77] who studied the ammonia synthesis over Ru supported on several supports, found the activity to depend strongly on the type of support used. These authors attributed this to variations in the electronic interaction of the metal with the support. Sueiras *et al* [153] also support this conclusion.

Santos *et al*,[154] who studied ammonia synthesis over Fe/TiO₂ catalyst found that a small degree of surface poisoning by titania caused a drastic decrease of activity. Nobile jr[155] investigated the kinetics of NH₃ synthesis over Fe/TiO₂, hydrazine pre treated Fe/TiO₂ and K or Cs promoted Fe/TiO₂. The pre-treatment of Fe/TiO₂ catalyst with hydrazine increased the ammonia synthesis turn over frequency by more than an order of magnitude than untreated one, because of inhibition of onset of Fe-TiO₂ interaction by hydrazine. Alkali promotion also increased the activity.

1.5.7. Isomerization

Hattori *et al* [156&157] and Itoh *et al* [158] reported the isomerization of butene over TiO₂ and TiO₂/SiO₂ catalyst. Maximum activity was obtained for a catalyst with 9:1 TiO₂: SiO₂ composition. The acidic properties are reported to be responsible for the activity.[156-162] Some authors [158-160] also reported the isomerization of 1-butene and β -pinene over pure TiO₂. Sohn *et al* [161] investigated the isomerization of 1-butene to cis and trans 2-butene over NiO/TiO₂ catalysts modified by anions like SO₄,²⁻ PO₄,³⁻ SeO₄²⁻ and BO₃³⁻ and showed the order of activity NiO-TiO₂/ SO₄²⁻ >> NiO-TiO₂/ PO₄³⁻ > NiO-TiO₂/ BO₃³⁻ > NiO-TiO₂/ SeO₄²⁻ > NiO-TiO₂. According to them the higher activity of SO₄²⁻ modified one is due to the improved acidic properties of this catalyst. Similar was the order of activity for ethylene dimerization carried out using these catalysts.[161&162]

1.5.8. Carbon monoxide oxidation

Carbon monoxide oxidation to CO_2 is an extremely important reaction from environmental point of view, since this reaction is applicable in automotive exhaust decontamination. This reaction is readily catalyzed by transition metals, particularly Pt group metals. The CO oxidation can be performed on Pt catalyst supported on either Al_2O_3 or $TiO_2.[133]$ If the reaction gas contains even trace amount of SO_x , Pt/Al_2O_3 catalyst is deactivated in a short time. A drastic decrease in specific surface area and pore volume takes place, resulting from the formation of aluminium sulfate.[133] An advantage of using TiO_2 based catalyst, is that it is resistant to SO_x poisoning. Matsuda *et al* [133] made this conclusion by investigating CO oxidation in presence and absence of SO_2 over Pt/TiO_2 , Pd/TiO_2 and Ru/TiO_2 . An inhibition of the reaction due to the presence of SO_2 was observed with all the catalysts. The effect, however, was smallest in the case of Pt/TiO_2 , which had maintained its initial activity even in presence of 500 ppm SO_2 for a longer period.

Tanaka and White[163-165] studied, in detail, the CO adsorption and CO₂ dissociation on Pt/TiO₂ catalyst. Akubuiro *et al* [166] carried out the kinetic study of this reaction over Pt/TiO₂. Lane and Wolf [167] investigated the effect of TiO₂ crystal phases on this reaction over Pt/TiO₂ catalyst. They convincingly argued that, the crystalline form of support plays a dominant role in determining the activity, where as the reduction temperature plays only a minor role. After low (200° C) or high (500° C) temperature reduction, the rutile supported Pt exhibited greater activity than SiO₂ or anatase supported ones. Though the reason for this better activity of rutile support one was not clear, a speculative oxygen transfer mechanism from the support is presented (here the rutile support acts as an oxygen source and provides a means for oxygen transfer to the adsorbed [CO]. These authors argued that the rutile support tends to give up its oxygen, more freely, since it has 19 Kcal/mole lower energy for oxygen desorption compared to anatase.[167]

1.5.9. Miscellaneous

Metals or metal oxides supported on TiO₂ are reported [168] to be used in catalytic conversion of chloro fluoro carbon (CFC). By considering the hazardous nature of CFC, this reaction is of vital importance. Pd/TiO₂, CeO_2/TiO_2 , La_2O_3/TiO_2 , Pt/TiO₂, NiO/TiO₂ and CoO/TiO₂ were the catalysts used.[168]

Enantio selective hydrogenation of prochiral C = C bonds using heterogeneous chiral catalyst is a challenging subject in organic synthesis. (E)- α -penyl cinnamic acid was hydrogenated to yield (S)-(+)-2,3-diphenyl propionic acid on cinchonidine modified Pt/TiO₂ catalyst, with much higher optical yield than palladium supported on activated carbon.[169-172]

Ir/TiO₂ is reported for hydrogenation of n-butane and 2,2, dimethyl propane.[173] The same catalyst was reported for partial oxidation of CH₄ to synthesis gas (CO and H₂).[93] Catalytic oxidation process plays an important role in the industrial production of fine chemicals and several other commodities. Propylene oxidation to acroleine is reported [174] over Fe-Sb-Ti mixed oxide catalyst with higher activity. Liquid phase epoxidation of olefins is known to proceed in the presence of hydro peroxides as oxidant over catalytic system that contain titanium.[175]

Micro porous crystalline titano silicates are another class of titanium containing catalysts, which are reported to be catalyzing the oxidation of unsaturated hydrocarbons with aqueous H_2O_2 , oxidation of alcohols to ketone, hydroxylation of aromatic hydrocarbon and amines to oxime.[175] Another titano silicate,[176] called titanium- β , is a suitable catalyst for oxidation of branched and cyclic alkenes in presence of organic hydroperoxides with high selectivity. The development of titano silicates,[175] which are ZSM type molecular sieves, are interesting due to their hydrophobic nature, which favours the diffusion of non-polar substrates to the active sites. The hydrophobic micro pores of this catalyst from deactivation.

1.6. Photo catalysis

Photo catalysis is a process in which there is a combination of photochemistry and catalysis and implies that light and a catalyst are necessary to bring about a chemical reaction. The photocatalytic experiments were generally carried out by exposing aqueous TiO₂ suspensions (1.25mg P25 DegussaTiO₂ Per ml solution) to the light of a 450 W XBO Xe lamp. During the early 1980's Ollis and co-workers [177-182] showed that in the presence of near UV illuminated TiO₂ suspensions, common chlorinated aliphatic hydrocarbon contaminants in water were not only dechlorinated but totally mineralized and it is clear that near UV illuminated TiO_2 suspensions provide a powerful wet oxidation method of general applicability. There are different types of TiO_2 used as photo catalyst: Degussa P25 (30nm diameter particle, 80% anatase & 20% rutile). Aldrich anatase (500 nm diameter particle) and Platinized Aldrich anatase(Pt-TiO₂).

The metal oxide semiconductors $SrTiO_3$ and TiO_2 have been frequently studied for applications in photo electrolysis cells and for toxic waste water treatment. Metal oxide photo catalysts have possible applications in water electrolysis, toxic waste remediation and in organic synthesis.[183-185] One of the most interesting aspects in TiO_2 based photo catalysis is the mineralization process by which halogenated organic compounds can be converted in to the inorganic substrates CO_2 and halide ions. This has been documented in quite number of elegant and informative studies pioneered in particular by Ollis and Matthews.[178,186-188]

Photo catalysis has been extensively studied over the past two decades. The literature reports a variety of photo catalytic reactions involving TiO₂, ZnO, Fe₂O₃, WO₃, CdS as commonly used photo catalysts for a variety of organic contaminants. These materials have the advantage of an absorption spectrum reaching through the UV and extending near the visible spectral domain. However when factors concerning photo stability, toxicity, cost, availability and redox efficiencies are all considered, TiO₂ becomes the photo catalyst of choice. It has been recognized that TiO₂ is the most efficient photo catalyst for many industrially and environmentally important reactions.[189] Photo oxidation of salicylic acid is reported by Dagan *et al* [190] on pure TiO₂. Photo decomposition of tri chloro acetic acid and CHCl₃ over TiO₂ were reported by Wang *et al.*[191] Reductive dehalogenation of 1,1,2- tri chloro flouro ethane (CFC113) took place upon illumination of air free suspension of TiO_2 containing formate ions.[192] Photo reduction of CCl_4 and $CHBr_3$ occurred in suspensions of TiO_2 .[193&194] Kutty *et al*[195] studied the photo degradation of phenol over nano sized TiO_2 (anatase) powder.

Kominami *et al* [196&197] put forward a couple of conditions to obtain better photo activity, viz. titania should necessarily possess large surface area to adsorb substrates and high crystallinity to diminish electron - hole recombination. They investigated the photo mineralization of acetic acid in presence of air. They claimed better activity for their catalysts prepared by hydrothermal crystallization in presence of organic solvents, compared to commercially available Degussa p-25 and Ishihara ST-01.

The photo degradation of metal - EDTA complexes, especially that of Cu, Fe and Zn over TiO_2 were studied by Kagaya *et al* [198] with complete removal of metal ions. This reaction is profound in the treatment of industrial effluent containing metal ions. Photo oxidation of mono chloro acetic acid and pyridine in presence of oxygen and ozone over TiO_2 were reported with activity and much lower specific energy consumption in presence of ozone. [199]

Lee *et al* [200] carried out the photo degradation of 1,4 - dichloro benzene. The irradiation of aqueous solutions of 1,2,4- trichloro benzene in the presence of titanium dioxide leads to the formation of several products. Rutile was reported by Sopyan *et al* [201] for the photo oxidative decomposition of gaseous acetaldehyde. It is reported that reduction of O_2 and oxidation of CHCl₃ take place at rutile TiO₂ Surface[202]. Muneer *et al* [203] studied the photo degradation of acid blue 40, a textile dye, in aqueous suspension of TiO₂. Addition of some anions. like $SO_4^{2^2}$ and $PO_4^{3^2}$ enhanced the photo **degradation** of paraquant, a very toxic herbicide.[204&205]

Iron doped TiO₂ is reported for photo reduction of molecular N₂, which has ecological significance and is a part of natural N₂ -cycle. [206] Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 mixed oxide catalyst was found to be used in photo detoxification of water containing dichloro acetic acid.[207] Titania supported on SiO₂ or Al₂O₃ is reported for photo decomposition of salicylic acid and phenol [208] with improved activity than pure TiO₂. Titania species anchored within the micro pores of Y-zeolite and meso porous zeolites exhibited a high and unique photo activity for the reduction of CO₂ with water at 55⁶C,[209&210] which is known as reductive fixation of CO₂. The titano silicalite is used for the photo decomposition of NO into N₂, O₂ and N₂O at 22⁶C. [211] Photo degradation of aceto phenone in aqueous medium is reported by Xu et al [212] on TiO₂ supported on micro porous zeolite X and Y and on meso porous molecular sieves. Ti exchanged clays are reported for photo degradation of dichloro methane with improved activity than pure TiO₂.[213]

Crystal structure of TiO_2 is important factor determining its photo catalytic efficiency. It has been known that anatase is more efficient catalyst than rutile. [214] How ever there is a great variety in the photo catalytic efficiency even among the same crystal form. Increasing the photo catalyst surface area appears to be the most obvious means of improving the efficiency of photo catalytic oxidation reactions. K.Tanaka *et al* reported[215&216] that the addition of H₂O₂ accelerated the degradation rate of many pollutants considerably. This effect of H₂O₂ is also influenced by crystal structure of TiO₂.

1.7. Scope and objective of the present investigation

It is evident from the literature that the preparation of fine metal oxides, especially TiO_2 , has been the subject of many scientific studies during the last two decades, considering their particular demand for use in catalysis. Hence, now, the preparation of fine TiO_2 powder is a subject of profound importance, in basic as well as applied research. As we know, the catalytic activity of titania is highly dependent on the phase anatase/rutile and its preparation is of fundamental importance to obtain desired properties, necessarily required to catalyze a particular reaction.

Only limited methods are available in literature for the preparation of metal oxide doped TiO_2 . The methods utilizing titanium tetra alkoxides or tetra chlorides are described in literature. But, it is very difficult to handle these compounds of titanium, as they vigorously hydrolyze even in presence of atmospheric moisture and phase pure TiO_2 anatase cannot be prepared in presence of chloride ions. Non-availability of commercial catalytic grade titania is the major concern of many of the catalyst industries, as the TiO_2 manufacturers are aiming only at the pigmentary properties rather than any other physical properties.

The present investigation is there fore carried out with the following objectives.

- To prepare titania doped with different percentages of some transition metal oxides.
- To characterize the transition metals doped titania prepared by coprecipitation using hydrazine hydrate and by wet-impregnation method and to evaluate their properties.

- To examine thoroughly the onset and completion temperatures of anatase to rutile phase transformation in presence of different percentages of Fe₂O₃, NiO, Cr₂O₃, MnO₂ and CuO during the heating.
- > To study the phase transformation in titania under air, inert and reducing atmospheres.
- To carryout detailed investigation on the photo catalytic activity of all these samples.

With these objectives, Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 , NiO/TiO_2 , Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 , MnO_2/TiO_2 and CuO/TiO_2 systems with different percentages of transition metal oxides were prepared through two different methods and characterized. Photo catalytic oxidation of toluene to benzoic acid was also carried out using all the five systems with different phase content of titania.

The present investigations were done using the uncalcined hydrated titanium hydroxide (titania pulp-amorphous material) containing 82% TiO₂ produced by the Travancore Titanium Products .Ltd., Trivandrum, Kerala,India. The various transition metal oxides are doped with the titania using co-precipitation and wet-impregnation methods. The details and results of these investigations are given in the following chapters.

Experimental

CHAPTER 2

MATERIALS AND EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

In this chapter, a brief description of the reagents used and the procedural details of the preparation of metal oxides doped TiO_2 namely Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 , NiO/TiO_2 , Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 , CuO/TiO_2 and MnO_2/TiO_2 systems are given. The details of instruments used and the analytical methods adopted for the physico-chemical characterization of the above samples as well as the transformation and catalytic properties are also outlined.

2.1. Materials used

Chemicals used

All the chemicals used were of analytical grade. The following chemicals were used:

Aluminium foil (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Ammonia (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Ammonium Sulfate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Ammonium thiocyanate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Barium chloride (RANBAXY) Chromium trioxide (s.d. fine - chem. Ltd) Cupric nitrate (s.d. fine - chem. Ltd) Dimethyl glyoxime (MERCK) Diphenyl amine sulfonate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Ethanol (RANBAXY) Ferric nitrate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Hydrazine hydrate (99% - s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Hydrochloric acid (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Hydrofluoric acid (RANBAXY) Hydrogen peroxide (30% - s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Manganous sulfate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Manganese dioxide (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Mercuric chloride (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Nickel nitrate (MERCK) Phosphoric acid (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Phenolphthalein indicator (s.d. fine - chem. Ltd) Potassium bisulfate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) **Potassium** dichromate (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) **Sodium** bicarbonate(s.d. fine - chem Ltd) **Sodium** hydroxide (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Stannous chloride (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Sulfuric acid (s.d. fine - chem Ltd) Sulfurous acid (CDH) Titanium dioxide (un calcined hydrated titania pulp containing 82% TiO₂ obtained from Travancore Titanium products. Ltd, Trivandrum, Kerala, India. Toluene (99% - RANBAXY). Gases used Argon (IOL, Mumbai)

Hydrogen (Sterling Gases, Kochi) Helium (IOL, Mumbai) Nitrogen (West Coast Industries Gases, Kochi)

2.2. Experimental procedure

2.2.1. Preparation of Fe₂O₃/TiO₂

Titania with two different compositions of Fe_2O_3 were prepared through two different methods.

2.2.1.1. Co-precipitation

Pure hydrated titania (34.7g) was dissolved in conc. H_2SO_4 (712.5ml) and (NH₄)₂SO₄ (570g) by boiling. Boiling was continued till a clear solution was obtained. It was then cooled, diluted 4 times with distilled water and kept in an ice bath. Ferric nitrate (8.2g) dissolved in distilled water (20ml) was added to the above titanium sulfate solution and mixed well. Hydrazine hydrate (99%) was added drop by drop to this solution with continuous stirring till the precipitation was complete (pH became 9 at this stage). It was then kept aside for 3hrs to settle down the precipitate and the supernatant liquid was decanted. Distilled water (approx. 500ml) was added to the precipitate, stirred well and decanted after settling. This was repeated till the washings were free from sulfate ions (tested using 2% BaCl₂ solution). The precipitate was filtered using Whatman No: 42 filter paper and oven dried at 110°C for 8hrs. This oven dried sample was divided into different portions and calcined at different temperatures viz. 700°C, 800°C and 900°C for different time in order to investigate the phase changes during calcination. The sample was labelled as 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂(c.p) and were also prepared similarly by taking 31.1g hydrated titania and 22.8g of ferric nitrate respectively. The sample was labeled as 15%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂(c.p).

2.2.1.2. Wet-impregnation

Hydrated titania (34.7g) was taken in a 250ml beaker. Ferric nitrate (8.2g) dissolved in distilled water (20ml) was added to the hydrated titania,

stirred well and evaporated to dryness on a hot plate with intermittent stirring. The residue was then oven dried at 110° C for 8hrs and calcined at different temperatures, viz. 800° C, 850° C and 900° C for different time. This sample was labeled as 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂(w.i) By adopting the same procedure, the sample ' 15%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂(w.i) was also prepared using 31.1g hydrated titania and 22.8g of ferric nitrate .

2.2.2. Preparation of NiO/TiO₂

Two different samples of NiO doped titania were prepared by the following methods.

2.2.2.1. Co-precipitation

The samples of 5% NiO /TiO₂, and 15% NiO/TiO₂ (c.p) were prepared by adopting the procedure described in section 2.2.1.1. using 8.2 and 27.3g nickel nitrate (dissolved in 20ml distilled water) respectively. The samples were oven dried at 110° C for 8hrs and finally calcined at 700° C, 750° C, 800° Cand 850° C for different time.

2.2.2.2. Wet-impregnation

The wet-impregnation was carried out by the same procedure given in section 2.2.1.2. The samples prepared by using 8.2 and 27.3g nickel nitrate (dissolved in 20ml distilled water) were labeled as 5 and 15% NiO/TiO₂(w.i) respectively. These samples were calcined at 850° C, 875° C and 900° C for different time intervals.

2.2.3. Preparation of Cr₂O₃/TiO₂

Two different samples of Cr_2O_3 loaded TiO_2 were prepared using the following procedure.

2.2.3.1. Co-precipitation

The co-precipitation was carried out as described in section 2.2.1.1 Here the samples 5 and 15% $Cr_2O_3/TiO_2(c.p)$ were prepared using 1.38 and 4.61g of chromium trioxide (dissolved in 20ml distilled water) respectively. The calcination was done at 600°C, 700°C, 800°C, 850°C and 900°C for different time.

2.2.3.2. Wet-impregnation

The procedure adopted was similar to that described in the section 2.2.1.2. The samples were prepared using 1.38 and 4.61g of chromium trioxide (dissolved in 20ml distilled water) and labeled as 5 and 15% $Cr_2O_3/TiO_2(w.i)$. These samples were calcined at 900°C, 925°C and 950°C for different time.

2.2.4. Preparation of MnO₂/TiO₂

The samples of MnO₂ loaded titania were prepared as follows.

2.2.4.1. Co-precipitation

Co-precipitation was carried out as explained in section 2.2.1.1 using 4.31 and 13.6g of manganese sulphate (dissolved in 20 ml distilled water). The samples were marked as 5 and 15% MnO_2/TiO_2 (c.p) respectively. They were calcined at 650°C, 675°C, 700°C and 750°C for different time.

2.2.4.2. Wet-impregnation

5 and 15% MnO_2/TiO_2 (w.i) Samples were prepared under this method as described earlier using 2.1 and 7.0 g manganese Dioxide respectively. These samples were calcined at 700^oC, 750^oC, 800^oC and 850^oC for different time.

2.2.5. Preparation of CuO/TiO₂

The samples of CuO doped titania were prepared as follows.

2.2.5.1. Co-precipitation

Co-precipitation was carried out as explained in section 2.2.1.1 using 7.9 and 21.25g of cupric nitrate (dissolved in 20 ml distilled water). The samples were marked as 5 and 15% CuO/TiO₂ (c.p) respectively. They were calcined at 700^oC, 750^oC, 800^oC and 850^oC for different time.

2.2.5.2. Wet-impregnation

5 and 15% CuO/TiO₂ (w.i) Samples were prepared under this method as described earlier using 7.9 and 21.25g cupric nitrate respectively. These samples were calcined at 750° C, 800° C and 850° C for different time.

2.3. Photo Catalytic oxidation of Toluene to benzoic acid (liquid phase)

The toluene oxidation activity studies were carried out using Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 , NiO/TiO_2, Cr₂O₃/TiO₂, MnO₂/TiO₂, and CuO/TiO₂ samples calcined at different temperatures as per the procedure described below.

0.250 g of above metal oxide doped TiO_2 samples with different phase content was taken in a photo reactor and 238 ml distilled water and 10 ml hydrogen peroxide also were added. It was then kept on a magnetic stirrer and oxygen was bubbled continuously. 2.7 ml of toluene was then added to the mixture and irradiation was done using 125 Watt medium pressure Hg-arc lamp fitted with annular water cooling jackets fabricated from glass not transmitting light of wave length < 300 nm, for different durations. After each one hour, sample was taken and analysed for benzoic acid formation. The benzoic acid formed was estimated by titrating against standard 0.1N NaOH solution using phenolphthalein as indicator as per the procedure cited in reference.[217] The proposed reaction is:

$$C_7H_8 + 3/2 O_2 \rightarrow C_7H_6O_2 + H_2O^{-1}$$

2.4. Crystallite size calculation

The crystallite size (not the particle size) of anatase was calculated using a computer program based on Scherrer relation. For this purpose, the width at half height of the peak corresponding to [101] plane of anatase was measured. The Scherrer relation states that the XRD peak broadening is inversely proportional to crystallite size [218] and the crystallite size can be calculated from the equation $D = 0.9\lambda / \beta \cos \theta$. Where, D = crystallite size, $\lambda =$ wavelength used, $\beta =$ corrected half width of the peak and $\theta =$ angle of diffraction.

2.5. Rutile percentage calculation

The rutile percentage in each sample was calculated using the equation $(1+0.794 I_A/I_R)^{-1}$ multiplied by 100. Where, IA and IR are the peak intensities of [101] and [110] planes of anatase and rutile respectively. [219]

2.6. Chemical analysis

A brief description of chemical analysis methods adopted for the estimation of TiO_2 [220] Fe₂O₃[221] NiO,[222] Cr₂O₃[223], MnO₂[224] and CuO [225] is given below.

2.6.1. Estimation of TiO₂

Aluminium reduction method

The estimation was carried out using the procedure described in literature.[221] The sample (0.2g) was fused with excess amount of potassium bisulfate (15g). The mass was cooled and dissolved in 20% H_2SO_4 (150ml) and the solution was made up to 250ml in a standard flask. A known volume of the made up solution was pipetted into a 500ml Erlenmeyer flask and conc. HCl (30ml) was added to it. The solution was boiled well and removed from the heating mantle. High purity aluminium foil (2g) was

attached to the glass rod of the reaction setup. The rubber stopper carrying the glass rod with aluminium foil and the delivery tube was immediately inserted into the Erlenmeyer flask. The other end of the delivery tube was placed below the level of saturated sodium bicarbonate solution taken in a beaker, to prevent the re-oxidation as shown below in figure 2.1.





A. 500ml Erlenmeyer Flask C. Glass Rod E. Aluminium Foil B. Glass tube D.250ml Beaker F. Sodium Bicarbonate Solution

The flask was heated again. Towards the end of the reaction, the flask was swirled to ensure complete mixing and reduction. When the aluminium foil was completely dissolved, the solution was gently boiled for 3-5 minutes keeping the delivery tube immersed in the sodium bicarbonate solution. The solution was cooled to a temperature less than 60° C. As the solution was cooled, the solution was drawn inside the flask and the CO₂ evolved would give the necessary protective atmosphere. The solution

was cooled and titrated against standard N/16 ferric alum solution using ammonium thiocyanate solution as indicator.

2.6.2. Estimation of Fe₂O₃

Fe₂O₃ was estimated as per the standard procedure.[222] The sample (0.2g) was fused with potassium bisulfate, dissolved in dilute H₂SO₄ and made up to 250ml, as described in section 2.8.1. A known volume of the made up solution was pipetted out into a 250ml Erlenmeyer flask, conc. hydrochloric acid (5ml) was added and heated for 5 minutes. Stannous chloride (6%, 2-3 drops) was added till the yellow colour disappeared and then one drop in excess was added. The excess SnCl₂ was removed by adding saturated HgCl₂ solution (15ml). Then 10ml of acid mixture (150 ml H₂SO₄ and 150 ml H₃PO₄ in 700 ml distilled water) and 10ml of Zimmermann solution (this solution was prepared by adding a cooled mixture of 100 ml conc. H₂SO₄ and 300ml water to a solution of 50g of MnSO₄.4H₂O in 250ml water. 100ml of syruppy phosphoric acid was also added.) was added. It was then titrated against standard 0.1N potassium dichromate solution after adding 3 drops of diphenyl amine sulfonate indicator to a violet end point.

2.6.3. Estimation of NiO

Nickel estimation was done as per the standard procedure.[223] The sample (0.5g) was fused with potassium bisulfate (38g). The mass was cooled and dissolved in 20% H₂SO₄ (300ml). TiO₂ was precipitated out by adding ammonia. The filtrate was collected and was made acidic by adding conc. hydrochloric acid (10ml). The solution was then heated to 70-80°C and 1% ethanolic solution of dimethyl glyoxime (25ml) was added. Dilute ammonia solution was added drop wise with constant stirring until the precipitation began and then in slight excess. The precipitate was filtered

through a sintered glass crucible and washed with cold water until free from **chloride** and sulfate. Completion of precipitation was tested by adding **dimethyl** glyoxime to the filtrate. The residue was dried at 110⁰C for 1hr and **weighed**.

2.6.4. Estimation of Cr₂O₃

 Cr_2O_3 was estimated as per the procedure.[224] The sample (0.5g) was fused with potassium bisulfate, dissolved in dilute H₂SO₄ and made up to 250ml, as described in TiO_2 estimation. A known volume of the made up solution was pipetted out into a 600ml beaker and added 50 ml of sulphuric acid and 10 drops of hydro fluoric acid (48%) using a plastic dropper. Oxidized by drop wise addition of Conc. HNO₃ and evaporated the solution to fumes of SO₃. Cooled, diluted to 300ml and warmed on a hotplate until completely dissolved. Removed from the hot plate and added 10ml of 0.25% AgNO₃ solution and 25ml of 15% ammonium persulphate solution. Brought to boiling and added one or two drops of KMnO₄ solution. Boiled for 10 minutes. To the boiling solution added 5ml of HCl. Boiled for 5 minutes again (to remove the permanganate colour present) and added 3ml HCl and boiled for 10 minutes after the solution turned yellow. Removed from the hot plate and diluted to 200ml with distilled water, cooled to room temperature. Added from the burette a measured excess of 0.05 N ferrous ammonium sulphate solution and titrated the excess ferrous ammonium sulphate with 0.05N permanganate. From the values obtained, the amount of Cr_2O_3 was calculated.

2.6.5. Estimation of MnO₂

Manganese estimation was done as per the standard procedure.[225] The sample (0.5g) was fused with potassium bisulfate (38g). The mass was cooled and dissolved in 20% H_2SO_4 (300ml). TiO₂ was

precipitated out by adding ammonia. The filtrate was collected and made acidic by adding about 40ml of 4N sulphuric acid solution and 40 ml of standard oxalic acid was buretted out into the solution. The mixture was gently heated to about 70° C and titrated against standard potassium permanganate solution till the end point. From the results, manganese dioxide was calculated.

2.6.6. Estimation of CuO

Copper estimation was done as per the standard procedure.[226] The sample (0.5g) was fused with potassium bisulfate (38g). The mass was cooled and dissolved in 20% H_2SO_4 (300ml). TiO₂ was precipitated out by adding ammonia. The filtrate was collected and was made acidic by adding a few drops of dilute hydrochloric acid and then added a slight excess (about 20-30 ml as required) of freshly prepared saturated sulphurous acid solution. (Prepared by diluting to 10 times its volume, the commercial concentrated solution, which has a specific gravity of 1.33 and contains about 54% SO₂)

Diluted the cold liquid to 150-200ml, heated nearly to boiling, and added freshly prepared 10% ammonium thiocyanate solution, slowly with constant stirring, from a burette until present in slight excess. The precipitate of copper(I) thiocyanate was white and the mother liquor was colourless and smell of SO_2 was present. Allowed to stand for settling over night. Filtered through a weighed sintered glass crucible and washed the precipitate 10 to 15 times with cold solution prepared by adding to every 100ml of water 1ml of a 10% solution of ammonium thiocyanate and 5-6 drops of saturated sulphurous acid solution and finally several times with 20% ethanol to remove ammonium thiocyanate. Dried the precipitate to constant weight at 110-120^oC and weighed as CuSCN. From the weight obtained, the amount of CuO was calculated.

2.7. Instrumental methods employed

2.7.1. Surface area analyzer

Surface area measurements were done by BET method of nitrogen adsorption at liquid nitrogen temperature using Gemini 2360 V4.01 instrument by taking accurately 0.5g of the sample.

2.7.2. photo catalytic reactor

The catalytic reactor was made of pyrex glass. It has 25cm height and 30mm and 18 mm outer and inner diameters respectively. It is fitted with annular water cooling jackets fabricated from glass not transmitting light of wave length < 300 nm.

2.7.3. Furnace and temperature programmer

A vertical tube furnace with a temperature programmer (Century Systems CS 7533) was used in these studies. Ordinary muffle furnace was used for calcination purpose.

2.7.4. X - Ray Diffractometer

Philips automatic powder diffractometer, PW 1710 with CuK α wavelength was used for XRD studies.

2.7.5. Scanning Electron Microscope

JSM-5600 instrument was used for SEM analysis. 0.1g of the sample was dispersed in acetone by sonication and one drop was placed on a copper stud, dried and gold sputtered. Then the SEM analysis was carried out.

EDAX analysis was also made simultaneously using the same equipment with attachments.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

CHAPTER 3

STUDIES ON Fe₂O₃ DOPED TiO₂

The catalytic activity of TiO_2 support is determined by physical properties such as surface area, crystallinity etc. which mainly depend on the preparative conditions. Many efforts have been made for preparing highly dispersed Fe catalysts on high surface area TiO_2 . But, unfortunately, only a few methods for the preparation of these catalysts are available in literature. The polymorphism occurring during the heat treatment is very important in selecting TiO_2 as a catalytic support.

In order to study the effect of amount of Fe_2O_3 and reaction atmospheres TiO_2 doped with different percentages of Fe_2O_3 was prepared using two methods, as described in Chapter 2. The transformation was studied in air, argon and hydrogen atmospheres as a function of temperature and time using XRD, Surface area measurements and SEM.

3.1. Chemical analysis

The composition of samples was determined by chemical analysis using standard procedures as described in chapter 2. The percentage of Fe_2O_3 in each sample is as given in Table 3.1.

Method of	Expected	Experimental	
Preparation	Fe_2O_3 (%)	Composition	
		Fe ₂ O ₃ (%)	TiO ₂ (%)
Co-precipitation	5	4.84	94.3
	15	14.39	84.4
Wet-Impregnation	5	4.80	93.8
	15	14.80	84.2

Table 3.1: Results of Chemical analysis of Fe2O3 doped TiO2 prepared throughdifferent methods.

3.2. XRD studies

XRD pattern of co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples calcined in air at different temperatures and time showed that these samples are crystalline above 550°C, where as phase transformations are different in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated one.

X-ray Diffraction patterns of the co-precipitated Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 after calcination in air at different temperatures are shown in figures 3.1 and 3.2.

Figure 3.1: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated 5% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ heated at different temperatures. (a) 700⁰C (b) 800⁰C (c) 900⁰C



In all the patterns there were peaks due to anatase and rutile phase of TiO_2 and no peaks due to Fe_2O_3 appeared, obviously due to the fineness of

50

iron oxide particles. Also there were peaks corresponding to pseudobrookite (Fe_2TiO_5) which indicates that Fe_2O_3 has reacted with TiO_2 during heating to form iron titanate.





1

210 220

Peaks of rutile appeared in the pattern at 700° C and on further increase, the rutile peaks became more intense and anatase peaks disappeared from the pattern, The various amounts of rutile formed during

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heating of co-precipitated Fe_2O_3 doped samples are given in tables 3.2 and 3.3.

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	700 ⁰ C	800°C	900⁰C
1	1.5	13.2	34.9
2	3.1	24.5	57.6
3	4.6	34.5	72.4
4	6.2	43.1	82.1
5	7.7	50.6	88.3
6	9.2	57.1	92.4
7	10.6	62.7	95.1
8	12.2	67.6	96.8
9	13.5	71.9	97.9
10	14.8	75.6	98.9

Table 3.2: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 5% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time.

In 5% Fe_2O_3 doped TiO₂, on calcination at 700⁰C for 8 hrs 12% rutile was formed and at the same time 15% doped sample gave 26% rutile, on heating at same conditions.

The influence of altervalent cation doping on TiO_2 on its phase transition and grain growth has been investigated. It was reported that dopants like Si^{4+}, V^{5+} and Ru^{3+} affect the phase transition temperature of the titania host. It was reported that on doping TiO_2 with 10% Fe₂O₃ and NiO, the anatase-rutile transformation is altered much. [69]

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	700°C	800 ⁰ C	900 ⁰ C
1	3.7	16.1	43.6
2	7.2	29.5	68.2
3	10.6	40.8	82.1
4	14.1	50.3	89.9
5	17.2	58.6	94.3
6	20.2	65.2	96.8
7	23.4	70.8	98.2
8	26.1	75.4	98.9
9	28.9	79.7	99.4
10	31.4	82.6	99.7

Table 3.3: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 15% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time

It is clear from the table that increasing the calcination temperature gives higher rutile % for the 15% doped samples than for 5%. The increase in rutilation is due to the difference in concentration of Fe_2O_3 .

Un doped TiO₂ does not undergo any phase transformation on heating up to 900° C. At 1000° C, anatase peaks disappeared giving only rutile peaks indicating that rutilation was complete. The patterns are as given in figure 3.3.



Figure 3.3: XRD patterns of undoped TiO₂ heated at different temperatures. (a) 800⁰C (b) 900⁰C (c) 1000⁰C

Therefore it is evident that the anatase-rutile transformation in un doped TiO_2 takes place between 900-1000^oC. This clearly indicates that the presence of Fe₂O₃ enhances the crystallographic rearrangement in TiO₂. Also in presence of Fe₂O₃, the crystallization temperature has been altered to
550^oC as compared to 700^oC for undoped sample. So, the presence of Fe_2O_3 has a strong influence on the crystallization of the co-precipitated sample.

The variation of rutile percentage with time at different temperatures during calcinations of Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 samples is given in figures 3.4 and 3.5. It was found that rutilation increases with durations of calcination. This variation in rutilation is different for different percentages of Fe_2O_3 .







Figure 3.5: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in coprecipitated 15% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂.

The wet-impregnated samples behaved differently during the heat treatment even though the effect of different percentages is same as in the case of co-precipitated samples. The XRD patterns of wet-impregnated samples are given in figures 3.6 and 3.7.



Figure 3.6: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 5% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂heated at different temperatures. (a) 800^oC(b) 850^oC (c) 900^oC

15% doped sample got rutilated almost completely at 900° C in 10 hrs, where as in the 5% loaded system, the rutilation started only at 800° C for 5 hrs heating and only 87% completed at 900° C for 10 hrs

heating. It is believed that Fe^{3+} introduces the oxygen vacancies in the anatase lattice, which favour the rutile nucleation.





An increase in the concentration of Fe^{3+} will favour a greater diffusivity because mass transport in TiO_2 is controlled by oxygen diffusion. This leads to a more rapid growth of rutile, which is in agreement with general theory of the vacancy diffusion mechanism [61]. When the temperature raises Fe^{3+} dissolution, the concentration of oxygen vacancies

and diffusivity in TiO_2 increase. Thus, the nucleation and growth of rutile is favoured by increasing temperature.

Rutile conversion in wet-impregnated samples on calcinations at different temperatures and time are given in tables 3.4 and 3.5.

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	800	850	900°C
1	0	7.4	18.9
2	0	14.2	34.3
3	0	20.6	46.7
4	0	30.9	61.8
5	4.7	35.5	69.9
6	5.6	39.4	73.2
7	9.3	42.3	75.3
8	10.6	46.1	81.4
9	11.8	50.3	84.9
10	13.2	53.6	87.7

Table.3.4: % of rutile formed during heating of wet-impregnated 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time

So, it is obvious from all these observations that Fe_2O_3 influences the rutile phase formation to different extents in samples prepared through different routes. The rutile percentages against time of heating at different temperatures of samples prepared by co-precipitation and wet-impregnation are given in Figures 3.8 and 3.9. The onset and completion temperatures of rutilation were much lower in co-precipitated ones as compared to wet-impregnated. The Fe₂O₃ influences noticeably the rutilation temperature in co-precipitated samples.

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	800	850	900 ⁰ C
1	2.5	8.8	24.1
2	4.9	16.9	42.4
3	7.4	24.3	56.2
4	9.7	39.8	69.9
5	12.1	43.5	74.9
6	14.3	49.8	81
7	16.4	55.2	85.5
8	18.58	60	89
9	20.6	64.4	91.6
10	22.65	68.26	93.69

Table 3.5: % of rutile formed during heating of wet-impregnated 15% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time

It can be inferred that the presence of Fe_2O_3 during the crystallization of TiO₂ would enhance the formation of rutile, to different extents depending on the method of preparation. If the distribution of Fe_2O_3 were more uniform, the chance for rutilation would also be higher. In wet-impregnated samples distribution of Fe_2O_3 is not uniform, which may be the cause for lower rutilation as compared to co-precipitated samples.

The activation energy for the anatase-rutile transformation was calculated and is given in table 3.6. The activation energy calculated for the transformation in co-precipitated samples in presence of 5% Fe₂O₃ is found to be 38.3 while in presence of 15% Fe₂O₃ 28.9k cal / mol. In case of wetimpregnated samples the activation energy for the transformation was found to be 63.6 in presence of 5% Fe₂O₃ while in presence of 15% it is 59.9 k cal/ mol. For undoped TiO₂, activation energy for anatase-rutile transformation was reported to be ~90 K cal/mol. But among 5 & 15% Fe₂O₃ 15% has more lowering of activation energy and hence it is more accelerating.



Figure 3.8: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in wetimpregnated 5% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂

It is clear that the lowering of activation energy is different in wetimpregnated system as compared to co-precipitated ones. So an analysis of the activation energy values determined is useful in understanding the relative accelerating effect of Fe_2O_3 doping. Hence it is clear that in presence of Fe_2O_3 , the activation energy is lowered much as compared to undoped.





The crystallite size of anatase calculated from XRD data is given in Table 3.7. The crystallite size was found to increase with temperature and rutilation, depending on the method of preparation. On increasing percentage of Fe_2O_3 in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples, Crystallite size also increased. The crystallite size increased more than that of pure TiO₂. The rutilation starts in 5% doped co-precipitated samples when the anatase crystallites grow to a size of 17.6 nm, while in the case of 5% wet-

impregnated ones the transformation happens at 14.4 nm. In 15% doped samples it is at 18.8 and 15.8 nm respectively.

Table 3.6: Activation energies for the anatase-rutile transformation in Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 .

Method of Preparation	Fe ₂ O ₃ (%)	Activation energy K cal/mol
Co-precipitation	5	38.3
	15	28.9
Wet-Impregnation	5	63.6
	15	59.9

3.3. Surface area studies

The surface area values of undoped and Fe_2O_3 doped samples calcined at different temperatures are given in table 3.7.

The effect on increasing Fe₂O₃ percentage is more pronouned. In the case of co-precipitated samples, surface area was 13.4 m²/g, and 12.9 m²/g respectively for 5 and 15% doped samples heated at 700°C for 8 hrs. Undoped titania under the same conditions gave 27.2 m²/g. The surface area decreased drastically with rutilation observed at 800 and 900°C for 5 and 15% doped samples respectively. Similarly, for wet-impregnated samples it was 16.2 and 14.4 m²/g in 5 and 15% doped system after heating at 800°C. It became 2.53 and 2.96 m²/g at 900°C. This is in agreement with crystallite size of anatase, which is found to increase with increasing Fe₂O₃ percentage.

Sample	Heating	Surface area	Crystallite size
oumpro	Temperature	(m^2/g)	of anatase
	(⁰ C)	:	(nm)
Undoped TiO ₂	110	162.58	a*
	300	109.59	a
	700	27.2	4.8
	900	9.13	14.2
	1000	2.54	b*
Co-precipitated	700	13.4	17.1
5% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	800	9.9	18.8
	900	2.41	22.6
Co-precipitated	700	12.9	17.6
15% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	800	4.3	19.9
	900	1.32	23.7
Wet-impregnated	800	16.2	14.4
5% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	850	8.43	17.3
	900	2.53	22.3
Wet-impregnated	800	14.4	15.8
15% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	850	7.93	17.6
	900	2.96	21.4

Table 3.7: Crystallite size and surface area values of un doped and Fe2O3 dopedTiO2 Samples heated at different temperatures for 8 hrs

* a- Amorphous TiO_2 * b- Anatase phase absent

Crystallite size of anatase seems to have some relation with surface area. Surface area decreased on increase of crystallite size. So, Fe_2O_3 has a significant influence on the surface area of these samples. The decrease in surface area with increase in rutile percentage was also larger in presence of Fe_2O_3 . This indicates that anatase-rutile transformation involves a collapse of the open structure to a closed rutile structure. This process takes place by the rupture of two of the six Ti-O bonds of the titanium co-ordination octahedral in anatase to form new bonds in rutile as said earlier.

Therefore it can be believed that the anatase-rutile transformation in the presence of Fe_2O_3 is more rapid than in pure TiO_2 . The formation of pseudobrookite is independent of the phase transition because it took place on Fe_2O_3 particles [61]

3.4. Scanning Electron Microscopic studies.

To understand the morphological changes of the titania doped with Fe₂O₃, Scanning Electron Microscopic studies on the samples were performed. Scanning Electron Micrographs of undoped TiO₂ before heating (containing anatase) and after heating at 1000° C for 8 hrs (containing rutile) are shown in Figures 3.9. Here Titania particles were found to be aggregated in the pure form (anatase). On heating at 1000°C for 8 hrs, some rearrangement occurs to form rutile. During this conversion, the aggregates of particles would be converted into agglomerates where the particles are rigidly joined. Also there is no appreciable change in the particle size during the conversion in undoped TiO_2 . The surface of both anatase and rutile samples were found to be rough before doping. Micrographs of Fe₂O₃ doped TiO_2 shown in figure 3.10 reveal that it becomes very fine on doping Fe_2O_3 . The surface of particles becomes smooth during the anatase rutile transformation. The surface morphology of Fe₂O₃ doped TiO₂ changes with rutilation. The distribution of Fe₂O₃ is uniform in co-precipitated samples and not in wet-impregnated system. This is identified from the EDAX analysis of the samples prepared. This is the reason for lower rutilation in wetimpregnated system. This observation is in close agreement with XRD studies.





(b)

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Figure: 3.11. Scanning Electron Micrographs of Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ after rutilation (a) Co-precipitated (b) Wet-impregnated.

3.5. Transformation in Argon and Hydrogen atmospheres.

The anatase rutile transformations in different atmospheres were studied to understand the effect of different reaction atmospheres on the anatase-rutile transformation. Argon (inert) and hydrogen (reducing) atmospheres are used in the investigations.

Figure.3.11.represents the XRD patterns of Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 heated in argon atmosphere at 700^oC. The anatase-rutile conversion was found to be amazingly accelerated in argon than in air.

The percentages of rutile formed in co-precipitated 5 and 15% Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 at different temperatures are tabulated in table 3.8. (tables 3.2 and 3.3 explain the transformation in air atmosphere)

	Rutile formed		
Temperature (⁰ C)	5% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	15% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	
650	7.8	14.4	
675	18.6	35.8	
700	48	91.5	
750	98.2	100	

Table 3.8:% of rutile formed in co-precipitated Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs.

In presence of argon the onset of rutilation was lowered to 650° C in coprecipitated 5% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂. The fraction of rutile formed is 7.8% in argon atmosphere for 0.5 hrs heating. In air atmosphere at the same conditions, no rutilation was found. Heating at 800° /6hrs produced 57.1% rutile in air atmosphere. Thus the anatase rutile conversion is different in argon than that in air atmosphere. In argon at 750° C, the rutilation was found to be nearly complete (98.2%) but in air, rutilation was found to be complete at 900°C and 10 hrs (98.9).





In the case of 15% Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 samples, the phase transformation is achieved by 0.5 hrs heating. The extent of acceleration is different in this case as compared to air. The amount of rutile formed is higher at each temperature as compared to 5% doped samples as evident from the table.

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In wet-impregnated samples onset of rutilation is shifted to 700° C. The XRD patterns are shown in figure 3.12.





CuKa 20[Deg]

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The effect of temperature is same as that in co-precipitated one. Different amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated samples are summarized in table 3.9.

	Rutile formed		
Temperature (⁰ C)	5% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	15% Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	
700	23.2	39.8	
750	48.4	78.7	
800	79.3	100	
825	100	100	

Table 3.9: Fraction of rutile formed in wet-impegnated Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs.

The variation of rutilation during heating in argon atmosphere in Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 samples is evident in figure 3.13. Here the transformation is accelerated but the extent of acceleration strongly depends on the method of preparation. The lower distribution in wet-impregnated samples may be the cause for the variation in transformation.

The activation energies for the transformation in argon are calculated to be 37.8 and 29.1 kcal/mol for co-precipitated 5 and 15% Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 and 62.8 and 60.1 kcal/mol for wet-impregnated 5 and 15% doped samples respectively. It is seen that there is not much difference in the activation energies in presence of air or argon. Hence the lowering of activation energy is not the reason for the enhancement of rutilation.

The importance of oxygen vacancies on the phase transition rate of TiO_2 in the presence of Fe_2O_3 seems to be also confirmed by a more rapid transformation in argon than in air. Hence it can be concluded that argon atmosphere increases oxygen vacancies concentration and thus it favours the anatase-rutile transformation.



1. 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂. 2.15%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂. (Co-precipitated) 3. 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂. 4.15%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂. (Wet-impregnated)



In hydrogen atmosphere, the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be low as compared to that in inert atmosphere. The XRD patterns of coprecipitated and wet-impregnated samples of different compositions are given

in figures 3.14 and 3.15.





(a) Undoped TiO₂ (b) 5% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ (c) 15% Fe₂O₃/TiO₂

It is observed that onset of rutilation is shifted to 700° C for 2 hrs heating, which is higher temperature than that in argon atmosphere.



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The 5% doped samples gave 12.2 % of rutile and 22.4% rutilation was observed in 15% doped sample for 2 hrs heating at 700° C. Tables 3.10 and

3.11 give the different fractions of rutile formed in co-precipitated and wetimpregnated systems (tables 3.2 and 3.3 represent the transformation in air)

Table 3.10: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

	Rutile formed (%)		
Temperature	5%	15%	
°C	Fe_2O_3/TiO_2	Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	
700	12.2	22.4	
750	23.4	36.5	
775	31.7	48.6	
800	48.8	61.3	

Table 3.11:% of rutile formed in wet-impregnated Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

	Rutile formed (%)			
Temperature	5%	15%		
°C	Fe_2O_3/TiO_2	Fe ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂		
700	0	0		
750	7.2	11.9		
775	18.4	22.3		
800	29.8	44.2		

In wet-impregnated samples rutilation was slow as compared to coprecipitated. The variation in rutilation with temperature in Fe_2O_3/TiO_2 samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere is shown in figure 3.16.

Figure 3.16: Variation in rutilation of Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ samples heated in Hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs at different temperatures.
1. 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ 2. 15%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ (Co-precipitated)
3. 5%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ 4. 15%Fe₂O₃/TiO₂ (Wet-impregnated)



5% doped sample on heating for 2 hrs at 750° C produced 7.2% rutile while 15% has given 11.9% rutile at the same conditions. There occurs some lattice defects in the sample during the heat treatment in reducing atmospheres. This is observed as colour changes to the samples. The colour changes may also be due to the reduction of Fe₂O₃ to its lower oxidation state in hydrogen atmosphere. The intensity of colour depends on the amount of dopants. This clearly indicates the effect of concentration of Fe₂O₃ is more

important in the phase transformation. This is observed in air and argon atmospheres.

Hence it can be concluded that the anatase-rutile transformation in Fe_2O_3 doped TiO₂ strongly depends on the concentration of dopants, method of preparation and the atmosphere of calcination.

3.6. Conclusions

The following conclusion can be arrived at from the results of the **above** investigations.

- In Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 anatase-rutile transformation takes place at lower temperature than pure TiO_2 .
- The phase transformation depends on method of preparation of doped samples
- On increasing percentage of Fe₂O₃ the transformation is accelerated in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples.
- The activation energy for the transformation is lowered much on doping TiO₂ with Fe₂O₃.
- Pseudobrookite phase was formed during heating at higher temperatures.
- The formation of Pseudobrookite phase is independent of anataserutile transformation.
- The percentage of Fe_2O_3 and method of preparation play major role on surface area and crystallite size of TiO_2 .
- Crystallite size of anatase increases and surface area decreases markedly upon Fe₂O₃ loading and rutilation.

- Surface morphology of TiO₂ changes much on doping Fe₂O₃ and also with rutilation.
- Both argon and hydrogen atmospheres enhance the anatase-rutile transformation
- Argon atmosphere was found to be more accelerating than hydrogen.

CHAPTER 4

STUDIES ON NIO DOPED TIO2

Extensive work has been reported recently on Ni supported on TiO_2 as a catalyst for CO hydrogenation with better activity compared to the other supports. Traditional methods like, wet-impregnation and ion exchange on crystalline TiO_2 were found to be employed in most of the investigations. In both the above methods, Ni atoms are introduced in to the TiO_2 crystal lattice by heating crystalline TiO_2 in presence of nickel salt solution at different temperatures, These methods would obviously reduce the surface area of TiO_2 , enhance the phase transformation and affect adversely on the homogeneous dispersion of the active metal on it.

Hydrazine hydrate precipitation is a new method described in literature for the preparation of nano sized metal oxides used for electronic applications. Hydrazine hydrate can quantitatively precipitate certain metals by complexing with them. These complexes undergo decomposition upon calcination resulting in high surface area metal oxides. Titania, in the amorphous state possesses high surface area and hence can incorporate large quantities of other metal oxides. Also, while loading metal oxides on crystalline titania, there is an increased chance for rutilation. Hence, amorphous titania was used for Coprecipitation and wet-impregnation methods. The phase in which TiO_2 exist during the calcination temperature is an important factor for deciding its applicability as a catalyst support. In this chapter polymorphism in TiO_2 doped with different percentages of NiO prepared by two methods such as co-precipitation and wetimpregnation, as described in Chapter 2. The transformation was studied in air, argon and hydrogen atmospheres as a function of temperature and time using XRD, Surface area measurements and SEM.

4.1. Chemical analysis.

The composition of the samples were established through chemical analysis using standard procedures as explained in chapter 2. The results are as given in Table 4.1.

Method of	Expected	Experimental	
preparation	NiO	Composition	
	(%)	NiO	TiO ₂
Co-Precipitation	5	4.88	94.73
	15	14.72	84.89
Wet-impregnation	5	4.79	94.82
	15	14.78	84.92

Table.4.1: Results of Chemical analysis of NiO doped TiO₂ prepared through different methods.

4.2. XRD studies

XRD patterns of co-precipitated NiO doped TiO_2 heated at different temperatures in air for different durations are given in figures 4.1 and 4.2. It was found that well defined and sharp peaks were obtained for samples calcined at 700^oC for 6 hrs, but one heated below 600° was amorphous. It has become crystalline only at 700^oC.





Marked changes could be seen in the characteristic peaks of anatase at d-value $3.52A^0$ and that of rutile at d-value $3.23A^0$.All the peaks were those of anatase, rutile and no peak of NiO are observed. There were peaks due to NiTiO₃ in sample containing rutile, which shows that reaction between NiO and TiO₂ has started forming NiTiO₃.



Samples heated at different temperatures. (a) 700^{0} C (b) 800^{0} C (c) 850^{0} C



The absence of NiO peaks clearly discloses the fine nature of NiO, which can't be detected using XRD technique. On comparing with crystallization temperatures of pure TiO_2 prepared by hydrazine

precipitation and thermal hydrolysis, there is a change in crystallization temperature in presence of NiO.

In order to investigate the effect of NiO on rutilation, the XRD analysis of all the samples calcined at different temperatures were carried out. The percentage of rutile formed at different temperatures were calculated and the various amounts of rutile formed in coprecipitated 5 and 15% doped samples are summarized in tables 4.2 and 4.3

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	700 ⁰ C	800°C	850°C
1	0	13.2	30.8
2	1.6	26.9	52.2
3	2.4	35.4	66.9
4	3.2	39.8	77.1
5	4.1	44.1	84.2
6	4.9	46.8	89.1
7	5.6	49.7	92.4
8	6.4	51.9	94.7
9	7.2	54.7	96.4
10	8.0	62.4	97.5

Table 4.2: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated 5% NiO doped TiO₂ Samples at different temperatures and durations.

The rutile peaks appeared after calcination at 700° C. So, it is apparent from the XRD data that the onset temperature of rutilation was lower in co-precipitated 5% doped ones than in pure TiO₂.

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Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	700°C	750°C	800ºC
1	1.2	26.8	52.5
2	2.5	31.9	61.3
3	3.7	38.0	72.4
4	4.9	42.7	80.6
5	6.2	45.4	84.6
6	7.4	48.8	90.2
7	8.5	53.0	97.6
8	9.7	54.1	99.9
9	10.8	55.4	100
10	12.3	61.6	100

Table 4.3: % of rutile formed inco-precipitated 15% NiO doped TiO₂ Samples at different temperatures and durations.

When the calcination temperature was increased to 800° C, the intensity of rutile peaks increased and that of anatase decreased in 5% doped sample while in 15% doped sample, rutilation is found to be complete at about 9 hrs. On increasing further to 850° C 5% doped system gave 97.5% rutile formation at 10 hrs calcination. The plot of

rutile percentage against time at different temperatures of calcinatins is given in figures 4.3 and 4.4.





In 5% doped system, at 850° C the anatase peaks disappeared and rutile peaks became more predominant while in 15% doped case, it happends at 800° C. On comparing with pure TiO₂, where the onset and completion temperatures of rutilation were in between 900°C to 1000° C, in co- precipitated NiO doped TiO₂ prepared by hydrazine

precipitation rutilation temperature has been reduced. It is very clear that NiO has important effect on the onset and completion of rutilation.

Figure.4.4: The plot of rutile percentage against time at different temperatures of calcination in co-precipitated 15% NiO doped TiO₂.



It is noteworthy that, at the onset of rutilation, some peaks due to NiTiO₃ were also present in the pattern. On increasing the calcination temperature, the intensity of these peaks also increased. This suggests that at higher temperatures, NiO reacts with TiO_2 to form the titanate.

The XRD patterns of wet- impregnated 5 and 15% loaded samples shown in figures 4.5 and 4.6 reveal that the above said samples behaved differently from co-precipitated ones. Here the onset and completion of rutilation were altered much. No phase changes could be observed up to 800°C in any of the wet-impregnated ones. This reflects the thermal stability of these systems under the conditions adopted.

Figure 4.5: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 5% NiO/TiO₂ Samples heated at different temperatures. (a) 850°C (b) 875°C (c) 900°C





The amount of rutile formed in wet-impregnated NiO doped TiO_2 heated at different temperatures is calculated from the XRD patterns using the equation given in chapter 2. The various percentages of rutile obtained are given in tables 4.4 and 4.5.

Figure 4.6: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 15% NiO/TiO₂

Time of	Rut	(%)	
heating (hrs)	850 ⁰ C	875°C	900 ⁰ C
1	1.7	9.2	22.6
2	3.3	17.6	40.1
3	4.8	25.3	53.7
4	6.6	32.2	64.2
5	8.2	38.5	72.3
6	9.8	44.2	78.6
7	11.3	49.3	83.4
8	12.8	54.2	87.1
9	14.3	58.3	90.1
10	15.7	62.1	92.3

Table 4.4: % of rutile formed in wet-impregnated 5% NiO doped TiO₂ Samples

It is obivious that rutilation in sample containing 5% NiO begins at 850° C, 9.8% rutile was formed on 6hrs heating, while in 15% 44.8% rutilation was observed at the same conditions. The variation of rutilation with temperature is different for different percentages of NiO. The conversion strongly depends on the amount of NiO and method of preparation of NiO doped TiO₂ samples.
Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	850°C	875⁰C	900°C
1	9.4	16.3	43.6
2	17.9	29.9	68.2
3	25.7	41.4	82.1
4	32.7	50.9	89.9
5	39.1	59.2	94.3
6	44.8	65.7	96.8
7	50.3	71.3	98.1
8	54.7	75.9	100
9	58.9	79.9	100
10	62.8	83.1	100

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Table 4.5: % of rutile formed in wet-impregnated 15% NiO doped
TiO ₂ samples

From the table it is clear that the rutile formed at different temperatures strongly depends on the amount of NiO. As compared to co-precipitated samples, rutilation in wet-impregnated samples are low. This may be due to lower distribution of NiO over TiO_2 in wet-impregnated samples. The graphical representations of rutile formation versus time are shown in figures 4.7 and 4.8.





The activation energy for the anatase-rutile transformation was calculated and is given in table 4.6. The activation energy calculated for the transformation in co-precipitated sample in presence of 5% NiO is found to be 44.4 k cal/mol while in presence of 15% NiO 36.6k cal / mol. In case of wet-impregnated samples the activation energy for the transformation was found to be 68.3 in presence of 5% NiO while in presence of 15% it is 59.4 k cal/ mol. For undoped TiO₂, activation

energy for anatase-rutile transformation was reported to be ~ 90 K cal/mol. Here also among 5 & 15% NiO 15% has more lowering of activation energy and hence it is more accelerating.





It is clear that the lowering of activation energy is different in wet-impregnated system as compared to co-precipitated ones. So an analysis of the activation energy values determined is useful in understanding the relative accelerating effect of NiO doping. It is clear that in presence of NiO, the activation energy is lowered much as compared to undoped.

Method of preparation	NiO (%)	Activation Energy K cal/mol
Co-precipitation	5	44.4
	15	36.6
Wet-impregnation	5	68.3
	15	59.4

Table: 4.6: Activation energies for the anatase-rutile transformation in NiO doped TiO₂.

On increasing the calcination temperature, the crystallite size was also increased in all the samples, but to different extents. In 5% NiO doped TiO₂ co-precipitated ones, at the onset of rutilation, the crystallite size was 9.4 nm, while in 15% doped one it was 11.8 nm. So, the rutilation takes place after the enlargement of anatase crystallites and the growth in crystallite size is highly dependent on method of preparation. The anatase crystallites are larger in NiO loaded samples than that in pure titania. In wet-impregnated samples, crystallite size was found to be 13.9 and 17.3 nm respectively in 5 and 15% NiO doped systems. Thus the crystallite size increased on increasing NiO percentage. It would be due to the suppression of titania grain growth by extremely fine NiO particles distributed on TiO₂.

Table.4.7:	Crystallite size and surface area values of un doped and
	NiO doped TiO ₂ Samples heated at different temperatures
	for 8 hrs

Sample	Temperature (⁰ C)	: Surface area (m ² /g)	Crystallite size of anatase(nm)
	110	162.58	a
	300	109.59	a*
Undoped TiO ₂	700	27.2	4.8
	900	9.13	14.2
	1000	2.54	b*
Co-precipitated	110	137.7	a [*]
5% NiO/TiO ₂	700	13.8	9.4
	850	6.8	27.7
Co-precipitated	110	192.7	a*
15% NiO/TiO ₂	700	11.2	11.8
	800	1.9	31.6
Wet-impregnated	110	103.5	a
5% NiO/TiO ₂	850	17.7	13.9
	900	9.2	19.3
Wet-impregnated	110	125.2	a*
15% NiO/TiO ₂	850	13.8	17.3
	900	6.2	22.1

* a- Amorphous *b-Anatase absent

Among all the samples, the co-precipitated one has highest rutile percentage at any temperature and lowest for wet-impregnated one. So, the preparation method and NiO percentage have marked influence on rutile phase formation. The crystallite size of anatase calculated from XRD data are given in table 4.6. Crystallite size calculations were done only at certain calcination temperatures at which drastic changes occurred.

4.3. Surface area studies

The results of surface area measurements are tabulated in Table 4.6. It was observed that on increasing calcination temperature, there occurred a marked decrease in surface area in all the samples. When the calcination temperature was increased to 700° C, in coprecipitated samples the surface area became 13.8 and 11.2 m²/g from 137.7 and 192.7 m²/g for 5 and 15% NiO doped systems. Like wise, in the case of wet-impregnated samples at 850°C, it became 17.7 and 13.8 m²/g respectively for 5 and 15% doped samples. Before calcination in these samples surface area was found to be 103.5 and 125.3 m²/g for 5 and 15%. It again decreased at 800°C at which the rutilation was found to be increased. In 5% NiO doped co-precipitated samples the surface area was 6.8 m²/g at 850°C when rutilation was complete and in 15% it was 1.9m²/g when rutilation was complete at 800°C.

In wet-impregnated samples at 900° C, when the NiO doped TiO₂ was fully converted to rutile, surface area was found to be 9.2 and 6.2 m²/g in 5 and 15% doped samples. Even though no direct relation between crystallite size and surface area could be made, surface area decreased significantly along with marked increase in

crystallite size. It is also evident that a very small change in crystallite size does not always necessarily involve a change in surface area. The decrease in surface area is due to rutilation, sintering and fusion of TiO_2 and NiO, to form NiTiO₃, which is in agreement with XRD data.

On comparing with surface area of pure TiO₂ surface area decreased on loading NiO. It is obvious from the above observations that the surface area decreased drastically during rutilation, which in turn is dependent on method of preparation, calcination temperature and NiO percentage. The decrease in surface area during rutilation was also greater in presence of NiO compared to pure TiO₂. The change in surface area with increase in NiO percentage is highly influenced by preparation method.

4.4 Scanning Electron Microscopic studies.

To understand the morphological changes occuring with rutilation, the samples before and after rutilation were subjected to SEM analysis. The micrographs were compared with the micrograph of undoped pure anatase and rutile shown in chapter 3. The micrographs are shown in Figs 4.9 and 4.10.

In all the micrographs only titania particles could be seen, which mirrors the presence of NiO as very fine particles, as supported by XRD and EDAX studies. The particles were all in a irregular shapes and were aggregated.

An appreciable change in particle size was observed between the samples prepared through different methods, even though the surface area values and other physical properties were different. So, it is apparent that a very small change in particle size detected in SEM, can cause a larger alteration in surface area. Particles in wet-impregnated samples appear to be finer in the micrographs. The particles were in much more agglomerated state (i.e. assemblages of particles which are rigidly joined) when the TiO_2 was fully converted to rutile, which would be due to cementation and sintering of individual particles, which is in agreement with XRD and surface area studies.

Figure.4.9 : Scanning Electron Micrographs of NiO doped TiO₂ before rutilation (a)Co-precipitated (b)Wet-impregnated.



after rutilation (a) Co-precipitated (b)Wet-impregnated.



Individual particles are also finer in wet-impregnated sample. The aggregation of particles is an evidence for the fineness of the sample, because it has been reported that²⁸¹ the individual particles in a fine powder would be in an aggregated form (i.e. assemblages of particles which are loosely coherent).

4.5 Transformations in Argon and Hydrogen atmospheres.

The anatase rutile transformations in different atmospheres were studied to understand the effect of different reaction atmospheres on the anatase-rutile transformation. Argon (inert) and hydrogen (reducing) atmospheres are used in the investigations.

Figure.4.11. represents the XRD patterns of NiO doped TiO_2 heated in argon atmosphere at 700^oC. The anatase-rutile conversion was found to be accelerated in argon than in air.

The percentages of rutile formed in co-precipitated 5 and 15% NiO doped TiO_2 at different temperatures are tabulated in Table.4.8.

	Rutile formed			
Temperature (⁰ C)	5% NiO/TiO ₂	15% NiO/TiO ₂		
650	23.8	32.4		
675	51.3	61.8		
700	76.9	88.7		
750	98.2	100		

Table.4.8: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated NiO doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs.

In presence of argon atmosphere, the onset of rutilation was lowered to 650° C in co-precipitated 5% NiO/TiO₂. The fraction of rutile formed is 23.8 % in argon atmosphere for 0.5 hrs heating. In air atmosphere at the same conditions, no rutile was formed. At 800[°]/6hrs heating produced 57.1% rutile in air atmosphere. Thus the anatase

rutile conversion is different in argon than that in air atmosphere. In argon at 750° C, the rutilation was found to be more or less completed (98.2%) but in air rutilation was found to be completed at 900°C 10 hrs (98.9).





In the case of 15% NiO/TiO₂ samples, the phase transformation is achieved by 0.5 hrs heating at 650° C, where 32.4 % rutilation was found. The extent of acceleration is different in this case as compared

to air. The amount of rutile formed is higher at each temperature as compared to 5% doped samples as evident from the table 4.8.

In wet-impregnated samples on set of rutilation is same as in coprecipitated samples but the amount of conversion is different. At 650° C, 5% NiO doped TiO₂ sample gave 12.8% rutile while 15% doped sample produced 24.7%. The XRD patterns are shown in figure 3.12.

Figure.4.12: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated NiO doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere for 0.5 hrs. (a)Undoped TiO₂ (b) 5% NiO/TiO₂ (c) 15% NiO/TiO₂



The effect of temperature is same as that in co-precipitated one. Different amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated samples are summarized in table:4.9.

Temperature	Rutile formed		
(⁰ C)	5% NiO/TiO ₂	15% NiO/TiO ₂	
650	12.8	24.7	
700	29.7	37.8	
750	62.4	76.3	

Table.4.9: % of rutile formed in wet-impegnated NiO doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs.

The variation of rutilation during heating in argon atmosphere in NiO/TiO_2 samples is evident in figure 4.13. Here the transformation is accelerated but the extent of acceleration strongly depends on the method of preparation. The lower distribution in wet-impregnated samples may be the cause for the variation in transformation.

The importance of oxygen vacancies on the phase transition rate of TiO_2 in the presence of NiO seems to be also confirmed by a more rapid transformation in argon than in air. Hence it can be concluded that argon atmosphere increases oxygen vacancies concentration and thus it favours the anatase-rutile transformation.

Figure.4.13:Variation of rutilation in NiO/TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere for 0.5 hrs at different temperatures. 1 - 5%NiO/TiO₂ 2 - 15%NiO/TiO₂ (Co-precipitated) 3 - 5%NiO/TiO₂ 4 - 15%NiO/TiO₂ (Wet-impregnated)



In hydrogen atmosphere, the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be low as compared to that in inert atmosphere. The XRD patterns of co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples in different compositions are given in figures 4.14 and 4.15.

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In co-precipitated samples, it is observed that on set of rutilation is shifted to 700° C for 2 hrs heating, which is higher temperature than that in argon atmosphere.





The 5% doped samples gave 16.7 % of rutile at 700° C and 22.3% rutilation was observed in 15% doped sample for 2 hrs heating at the

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same temperature. Tables 4.10 and 4.11 represent the different fractions of rutile formed in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated systems.

	Rutile fo	ormed (%)
Temperature ⁰ C	5% NiO/TiO ₂	15% NiO/TiO ₂
650	0	0
700	16.7	22.3
725	21.3	34.7
750	36.8	54.8

Table.4.10: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated NiO doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

Table.4.11: % of rutile formed in wet-impregnated NiO doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

T	Rutile formed (%)		
Temperature ⁰ C	5% NiO/TiO ₂	15% NiO/TiO ₂	
700	0	0	
725	7.8	14.9	
750	18.4	29.8	
800	28.6	48.9	

In wet-impregnated samples rutilation started slowly as compared to co-precipitated. The variation in rutilation with temperature in NiO/TiO_2 samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere is shown in figures 4.16.





5% doped sample on 2 hrs heating at 750°C produced 18.4 % rutile while 15% has given 29.8 % rutile at the same conditions. There occurs some lattice defects in the samples during the heat treatment in reducing atmospheres. This is experienced as colour changes of the samples. The colour changes can also be due to the reduction of NiO to its lower oxidation state in hydrogen atmosphere. The intensity of

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colour depends on the amount of dopant. This clearly indicates the effect of concentration of NiO is more important in the phase transformation. This is observed in air and argon atmosphere also. Hence it can be concluded that the anatase –rutile transformation in NiO doped TiO_2 strongly depends on the concentration of dopants, method of preparation and the atmosphere of calcination.

4.6 Conclusions

- On heating NiO doped TiO₂, anatase-rutile transformation takes place.
- Onset and completion temperatures of rutilation were found to vary with method of preparation.
- \blacksquare At the onset of rutilation NiTiO₃ phase is also formed.
- Better surface area are obtained with co-precipitated ones compared to wet-impregnation method.
- Calcination temperature and amount of NiO content have greater role in determining surface area.
- Crystallite size enlargement takes place during rutile phase formation.
- A morphological change occurs to TiO_2 during heating in pesence of NiO and with rutilation.
- Atmosphere of calcination have major role in polymorphism in TiO_2 .
- Among air, argon and hydrogen atmospheres, the order of enhancing rutilation is Argon > Hydrogen > Air.

CHAPTER 5

STUDIES ON Cr₂O₃ DOPED TiO₂

The catalytic activity of the titania supported chromia system is owing to the stabilization of the anchored chromia species having multiple chemical and molecular states on the surface. Many transition metal ion dopants have been investigated for the TiO_2 system. Chromium doped TiO_2 is studied for the photo degradation of methylene blue dye.

Therefore in order to study the effect of Cr_2O_3 and reaction atmospheres on anatase-rutile transformation in TiO₂ it is doped with 5 and 15 percentages of Cr_2O_3 using co-precipitation and wet-impregnation methods, as described in Chapter 2. The transformation was studied in air, argon and hydrogen atmospheres as a function of temperature and time using XRD, Surface area measurements and SEM.

5.1. Chemical analysis

The constitution of Cr_2O_3 / TiO₂ samples was established by chemical analysis using standard procedures available in literature. The percentage of Cr_2O_3 in each sample is as given in Table 5.1.

Method of Preparation	Expected Cr ₂ O ₃ (%)	Experimental Composition	
		Cr ₂ O ₃	TiO ₂
Co-precipitation	5	4.94	94.8
	15	14.89	84.9
Wet-Impregnation	5	4.64	94.3
	15	14.39	84.7

Table.5.1: Results of Chemical analysis of Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ prepared through different methods.

5.2. XRD studies

XRD patterns of co-precipitated Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ heated in air are shown in Figures 5.1 and 5.2. It was found that there are peaks corresponding to anatase and rutile in samples heated at different temperatures. The appearance of peak and its intensity are different for samples containing different amounts of Cr_2O_3 . In 5% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ samples the percentage of rutile formed was lower as compared to 15% Cr_2O_3 . In 5% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂. on heating at 800°C for 8hrs, the anatase to rutile transformation occurs and 27.7% rutile was formed. On increasing temperature to 850°C, at 8 hrs, 60.6% rutile was formed and at 900°C for 10 hrs, rutilation was almost complete.

There are peaks corresponding to chromium titanate in samples heated above 800° C, the intencity of titanate peaks increased with rise of temperature. Hence at higher temperature Cr₂O₃ reacts with titania to form its titanate. 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂, behaved differently from that of 5% doped samples, here rutilation started at 600° C it self, and 8 hrs heating at this temperature produced 72.3% rutile. This clearly indicates that amount of Cr₂O₃ is a deciding factor of rutilation. On heating at 800°C for 8 hrs, 96.5% rutile formation was found in 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂.



Figure 5.1: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated 5% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ heated at different temperatures for 8 hrs. (a) 800⁰C (b) 850⁰C (c) 900⁰C





In order to quantify anatase to rutile transformation, different percentages of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 at different temperatures and time are calculated using the standard equations given in chapter 2 and the values are given in tables 5.2 and 5.3.

Time of	Rutile formed (%)			
heating (hrs)	800 ⁰ C	850 ⁰ C	900°C	
]	3.9	10.9	24.9	
2	7.7	20.7	43.6	
3	11.4	29.5	57.6	
4	14.9	37.2	68.2	
5	18.3	44.3	76.1	
6	21.6	50.2	82.2	
7	24.7	55.7	86.5	
8	27.7	60.6	89.9	
9	30.5	64.9	92.4	
10	33.3	68.8	96.9	

Table.5.2: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 5%Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ heated at different temperatures and time.

But undoped TiO₂ on calcination at 700° C for 8 hours has no rutile and only anatase phase was present as described in chapter 3. Hence it is clear that Cr₂O₃ has higher enhancing effect on polymorphism in TiO₂ than Fe₂O₃. This reaction is highly temperature dependent and 15% Cr₂O₃ has more enhancing effect than 5%.

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	600°C	700°C	800°C
1	14.8	21.7	32.1
2	27.4	38.8	53.9
3	38.2	52.1	68.7
4	47.3	62.5	78.7
5	55.1	70.7	85.6
6	61.8	77.1	90.2
7	67.4	82.4	93.3
8	72.3	86.2	96.5
9	76.4	89.1	96.9
10	79.9	91.4	97.9

Table.5.3: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ heated at different temperatures and time

If we consider the defect formation by foreign ions in titania lattice, it can be assumed that ions, which enter in to the system substituting Ti^{4+} , may either enhance or delay the transformation from anatase to rutile depending on whether the number of oxygen vacancies is increased or decreased.[227] In this case the oxygen vacancies created in anatase by the presence of Cr_2O_3 act as nucleation site for the anatase to rutile phase transformation.[228]

The variation of rutile formation on heating at different temperature and time is shown in figures 5.3 and 5.4.



Figure.5.3: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in co-precipitated 5% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂.

The graphs clearly show the increase of rutilation with increasing temperature and time of heating. The variation is different for 5 and 15% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ eventhough both are co-precipitated samples.

The transformation in wet-impregnated samples is found to be very low as compared to co-precipitated. The onset of rutilation in both 5 and 15% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ takes place at very high temperature compared to co-precipitated samples.



Figure.5.4: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in co-precipitated 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂.

From the XRD patterns shown in figures 5.5 and 5.6, it is evident that **rutilation** started at 900^oC in both 5 and 15% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ samples. In all **the** samples rutilation is not complete even at 950^oC. The peaks corresponding to anatase and rutile were found in all the XRD patterns of the samples heated **above** 900^oC. The intensity of anatase peak was found to be decreased while **that** of rutile increased with temperature and time of heating.



Figure.5.5: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 5% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ heated at different temperatures for 8 hrs. (a) 700⁰C (b) 800⁰C (c) 900⁰C

In these samples also peaks corresponding to chromium titanate appeared in samples heated above 900° C. At higher temperature Cr₂O₃ reacts with titania to form their titanate and its formation depends on the method of preparation of doped sample since the intesity of chromium titanate peak is low compared with co-precipitated systems.





Various amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated samples heated at different temperatures and time are calculated from XRD patterns using standard method and are tabulated in tables 5.4 and 5.5.

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Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	900°C	925°C	950°C
1	0	3.6	12.2
2	0	7.2	22.9
3	4.3	10.6	32.3
4	5.8	13.9	40.5
5	7.2	17.4	47.8
6	8.6	20.2	54.2
7	10.3	23.1	59.4
8	12.4	25.9	64.7
9	14.9	28.7	69.8
10	16.2	31.3	72.7

Table.5.4: % of rutile formed during heating of Wet-impregnated
5% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO ₂ at different temperatures and time.

It was observed that at 950° for 6hrs heating 54.2% conversion has taken place in wet-impregnated 5% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂. In the case of 15% doped sample, 73.7% rutilation was seen at the same condition. At all other temperatures amount of rutile conversion is different in samples with different amounts of Cr₂O₃. Hence the transformation is highly dependent on the method of preparation of doped samples as well as the amount of dopent. In coprecipitated samples, the conversion occurs at lower temperature than in the wet-impregnated samples. It is due to the lower distribution of Cr₂O₃ on TiO₂ in wet-impregnated samples. Also there are peaks for chromium titanate and no peak for Cr_2O_3 , indicating that on heating at higher temperature Cr_2O_3 reacts with TiO₂ to form its titanate.

Time of	Rutile formed (%)		
heating (hrs)	900 ⁰ C	925°C	950 ⁰ C
1	0,	8.7	19.9
2	0	16.7	35.9
3	6.4	24.2	48.7
4	8.4	30.6	58.9
5	10.4	36.7	67.1
6	12.4	42.3	73.7
7	14.3	47.6	78.9
8	16.1	51.9	83.1
9	18.3	56.1	86.5
10	23.5	60.3	89.2

Table.5.5: % of rutile formed during heating of Wet-impregnated15%Cr2O3 doped TiO2 at different temperatures and time.

The plots of rutile percentage versus time at different temperatures are shown in figures 5.5 and 5.6. Like co-precipitated samples in wet-impregnated ones also the rutilation is accelerated by heating at higher temperature and time as evident from the graphs.



Figure.5.5: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in wet-impregnated 5% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂.

When anatase is transformed to rutile, chromium atoms are segregated from the rutile stable phase grains, there by creating a thin Cr_2O_3 film (in case of high Cr_2O_3 loading) or small nano clusters (in the case of lower Cr_2O_3 loading). At an intermediate stage, an anatase layer, which still contains chromium, remains at the exterior surface until the total transformation to rutile phase.[226]



Figure.5.6: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in wet-impregnated 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂.

The mechanism responsible for the transformation is the spatial disturbance of the oxygen ion framework. When Cr^{3+} ions enter in to TiO₂, the charge of the Cr^{3-} ions should be compensated for an increase in oxygen vacancies leading to the enhancement of the anatase to rutile transformation [227,229] and the shifting of the majority of Ti⁴⁺ ions by breaking two of the six Ti-O bonds to form new bonds. The function of Cr_2O_3 is to lower the energy needed to break the bonds and to form the new bonds. There will be nucleation and growth of rutile during anatase to rutile transformation. This

process takes place rapidly in coprecipitated ones since there is uniform distribution of Cr_2O_3 on TiO_2 as both are precipitated together from a homogeneous solution. This distribution is low in wet impregnated ones, which is the reason for the lower transformation.

The crystallite size of Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 calculated from XRD patterns are shown in Table 5.5. It is seen that crystallite size increases with increase of heating temperature. The rutilation taking place as the function of temperature may be the reason for the crystallite size enlargement. This increase is higher for 15% Cr₂O₃ doped samples compared to 5% doped ones prepared by same method at any particular temperature as in the case of Fe₂O₃ doped TiO₂ system discussed in chapter 3. Rutilation begins in 5% Cr₂O₃ doped coprecipitated samples when the anatase crystallites grow to a size of 9.8 nm. while in the case of 5% wet-impregnated ones the transformation happens at 900⁶C, where crystallite size was 10.2 nm. In the 15% doped samples also coprecipitated have larger crystallite size than wet-impegnated. Hence it is clear that the particle size and crystallite size of anatase increase markedly in the region of the crystal structure transformation. It was reported that the unit cell of anatase seems to expand prior to the transformation to rutile [51]

5.3. Surface area studies

The surface area values of undoped and Cr_2O_3 doped samples calcined at different temperature are determined. It is clear that Surface area of both co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples decreases on heating at higher temperature, which may be due to rutilation at these temperatures. The surace area decrease is more pronouned on increasing Cr_2O_3 percentage. In the case of co-precipitated samples, surface area was 45.4 m²/g, and 39.1 m²/g respectively for 5 and 15% doped samples heated at 700°C for 6 hrs. Undoped

titania under the same conditions gave 27.2 m²/g. The surface area decreased drastically with rutilation. In 5% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ at 850°C for 6 hrs 23.9 m²/g surface area was obtained and for 15% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ containing 90.2% rutilation, surface area was 9.4 m²/g at 800°C for 6 hrs. Similarly in wet-impregnated samples it was 21.25 and 19.3 m²/g in 5 and 15% doped system on heating at 900°C for 6 hrs where rutilation started. It became 9.86 and 8.23 m²/g for heating at 950°C for 6 hrs.

In all the cases surface area decreased on increasing the percentage of Cr_2O_3 . More predominant change was observed in co-precipitated ones. This is in agreement with crystallite size of anatase, which is found to increase on increasing Cr_2O_3 percentage. At this point, it would be noteworthy that anatase to rutile transformation in Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ system is accompanied by enlargement of crystallite size and lower surface area.

Crystallite size of anatase seems to have some relation with surface area. It decreased on increasing surface area in all the samples depending on the method of preparation. So, Cr_2O_3 has a significant influence on the surface area of these samples. The decrease in surface area with increase in rutile percentage was also larger in presence of Cr_2O_3 .

Sample	Heating Temperature (⁰ C)	Surface area (m²/g)	Crystallite size of anatase (nm)
Undoped TiO ₂	110	162.58	a*
	300	109.59	a*
	700	27.2	4.8
	900	9.13	14.2
	1000	2.54	b*
Co-precipitated	700	45.4 ,	7.2
5% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	850	23.9	13.4
	900	12.2	14.9
Co-precipitated	500	119.4	a*
15% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	700	39.1	4.3
	800	9.4	10.3
Wet-impregnated	900	21.25	10.2
5% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	925 ·	13.47	11.2
	950	9.86	12.9
Wet-impregnated	900	19.3	11.4
15% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	925	11.91	12.8
	950	8.23	13.9

Table.5.5: Variation of Crystallite size and surface area in undopedand Cr2O3 doped TiO2 Samples heated for 6hrs.

*a Amorphous *b Anatase phase absent

The activation energy for the conversion in co-precipitated samples was alculated using standard methods explained in chapter 2 and values are 32.4 for
5% while in 15% it was 22.9 k cal / mol. For undoped TiO₂, activation energy for anatase-rutile transformation was reported to be ~90 K cal/mol. There fore Cr_2O_3 decreases the activation energy for the transformation, this decrease is higher for 15%. In wet-impregnated samples activation energy for the transformation was calculated to be 82.4 for 5% while in 15% it was 78.7 k cal / mol. Here also the activation energy is lowered and the extent of lowering is low as compared to co-precipitated samples, which reflects as high onset temperature of rutilation (900^oC). In wet-impregnated samples the distribution of dopant is not uniform compared to co-precipitation. This may be the reason for the wide variation in the transformation. Hence the anatase to rutile transformation strongly depends on the method of preparation of Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂samples as well as the amount of Cr_2O_3 .

Method of preparation	Cr ₂ O ₃ (%)	Activation Energy (kcal/mol)
	5	32.4
Co-precipitation	15	22.9
	5	82.4
Wet-impregnation	15	78.7

Table.5.6: Activation energies for the anatase-rutile transformation in Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂.

5.4. Scanning Electron Microscopic studies.

SEM studies were done to understand the morphological changes of Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 samples with rutilation. The micrographs are shown in figure 5.7 It is obvious that the surface morphology of TiO₂ changes with rutilation. Also 'wet-impregnated samples differ from co-precipitated ones in their shape. Before rutilation particles are found to be agglomerated in wet-impregnated samples. After rutilation co-precipitated sample's surface becomes smooth and not porous and it is not agglomerated and most of the particles are fine (small).

In case of wet-impregnated samples, the surface becomes porous and not smooth like co-precipitated. It may be due to the agglomeration or aggregation of particles as prepared. Hence the morphological changes are different for samples prepared by co-precipitation and wet-impregnation. The lower rutilation in wet-impregnated samples may be due to this difference. However the surface morphology of Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ changes markedly during the anatase rutile transformation.

Thus we can say that some crystallographic changes occur in TiO_2 during the heating in presence of Cr_2O_3 , leading to the changes in surface morphology.

Figure.5.7: Scanning Electron Micrographs of Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ before rutilation (a) Co-precipitated (b) Wet-impregnated



Figure.5.8: Scanning Electron Micrographs of Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ after rutilation (a) Co-precipitated (b) Wet-impregnated



5.5 Transformation in Argon and Hydrogen atmospheres.

The anatase rutile transformations in Argon (inert) and hydrogen (reducing) atmospheres have been investigated. Figure 5.9 represents the XRD patterns of co-precipitated Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 heated in argon atmosphere at 700°C for 0.5 hrs. The anatase-rutile transformation was found to be surprisingly accelerated in argon than in air.

In argon atmosphere, the onset of rutilation was lowered to 700° C in coprecipitated 5% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂. The fraction of rutile formed is 9.3 % for 0.5 hrs heating. This is much different from that in air. At 800°C, the rutilation was found to be 88.9 %. 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ even at 600°C for 0.5 hrs heating produced 34.8 % rutile and at 750°C for 0.5 hrs heating completed the rutilation. The fraction of rutile formed in co-precipitated 5 and 15% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ at different temperatures are tabulated in table 5.8. Hence the extent of acceleration is different in this case from that in air. The amount of rutile formed is higher at each temperature as compared to 5% doped samples as evident from the table 5.8.

Temperature	Rutile formed		
(⁰ C)	5% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	15% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	
600	0	34.8	
700	9.3	78.9	
750	44.9	100	
800	88.9	100	

Table: 5.8: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs heating.





In wet-impregnated samples on set temperature of rutilation is changed and at 800° C for 0.5 hrs heating 5% Cr₂O₃ doped samples gave 18.4 % rutile while 36.8% anatase to rutile conversion was found in 15% doped samples. The XRD patterns of wet-impregnated Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ heated in argon for 0.5 hrs at 700°C are shown in figure 5.10.





The effect of higher temperature is same as that in co-precipitated one. The different amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated samples are summarized in table 5.9.

<i>(</i>)	Rutile formed (%)		
Temperature (⁰ C)	5% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	15% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	
700	0	0	
800	18.4	36.8	
850	28.9	65.7	
900	48.3	83.4	

Table.5.9: % of rutile formed in wet-impegnated Cr ₂ O ₃ doped T	∃iO₂
samples heated in argon atmosphere at different	
temperatures for 0.5 hrs heating.	

The variation in rutilation during heating in argon atmosphere in Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 samples is shown in figure 5.11. Like in air atmosphere heating at higher temperature increases the rutilation in argon also. The difference is in the on set temperature and time. Here also the transformation strongly depends on the method of preparation and amount of Cr_2O_3 . The lower distribution in wet-impregnated samples may be the cause for the differences in transformation.

The importance of oxygen vacancies in the phase transformation rate of TiO_2 in the presence of Cr_2O_3 seems to be also confirmed by a more rapid transformation in argon than in air. Hence it can be concluded that argon atmosphere increases oxygen vacancies concentration and thus it favours the anatase-rutile transformation.

Figure.5.11: Variation of rutilation in Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere for 0.5 hrs at different temperature.
1- 5% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ 2 - 15% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ (Co-precipitated)
3- 5% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ 4 - 15% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ (Wet-impregnated)



In hydrogen atmosphere, the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be different as compared to the transformation in air and inert atmosphere. The XRD patterns of co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples of different compositions are given in figures 5.12 and 5.13.

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Figure.5.12: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere at 650⁹/2hrs.
(a) Undoped TiO₂ (b) 5% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ (c) 15% Cr₂O₃/TiO₂.

It is observed that in co-precipitated samples on set of rutilation is shifted to 650° C for 2 hrs heating in 5% doped sample while in 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ even at 550°C rutilation appeared which is widely different from than that in argon atmosphere. The 5% doped samples gave 12.4 % of rutile at 650° C for 2 hrs heating and 39.4% rutilation was observed in 15% doped sample for 2 hrs heating at 550°C.





In case of wet-impregnated samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere, rutilation started at 750° C in samples containing 5% Cr₂O₃. At 700° C, 15% doped samples gave rutile on 2 hrs heating. Different amounts of rutile formed are calculated from the XRD patterns and tables 5.10 and 5.11 represent the

different percentages of rutile formed in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples during the calcinations at different temperatures for 2 hrs.

Temperature	Rutile	formed
°C	5% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	15% Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂
500	0	0
550	0	39.4
575	0	74.8
600	0	100
650	12.4	100
700	28.7	100
750	49.8	100

Table.5.10: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

Table.5.11: % of rutile formed in wet-impregnated Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

	Rutile formed.		
Temperature	5%	15%	
°C	Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	Cr ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂	
700	0	7.8	
750	3.2	19.8	
800	28.6	39.8	

Hence it is clear that in wet-impregnated samples rutilation started slowly as compared to co-precipitated which again confirms the importance of method of preparation on the phase transformation in Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂. The

variation of rutilation with temperature in Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere is shown in figure 5.16.

Figure.5.16: Variation of rutilation in Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs at different temperature.
1 - 5%Cr₂O₃/TiO₂. 2 - 15%Cr₂O₃/TiO₂. (Co-precipitated)
3 - 5%Cr₂O₃/TiO₂. 4 - 15%Cr₂O₃/TiO₂. (Wet-impregnated)



There occurs some lattice defects in the sample during the heat treatment, resulting in phase transformation. This clearly indicates that the role of Cr_2O_3 is more important. This observation was seen in air and argon atmospheres also. Hence it can be concluded that the anatase to rutile transformation in Cr_2O_3 doped

 TiO_2 strongly depends on the concentration of dopants, method of preparation and the atmosphere of calcination.

5.6. Conclusions

The following conclusion can be arrived at from the results of the **above** investigations.

- In Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ anatase-rutile transformation takes place at lower temperature as compared to pure TiO₂.
- The onset and extent of phase transformation depend on the method of preparation of doped samples
- \square On increasing the percentage of Cr_2O_3 the transformation is increased in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples.
- The activation energy for the transformation is lowered much on doping TiO₂ with Cr₂O₃.
- Chromium titanate phase was formed during the heating of TiO_2 doped with Cr_2O_3 .
- The percentage of Cr_2O_3 and method of preparation play major role on surface area and crystallite size of TiO₂.
- Crystallite size of anatase increases and surface area decreases markedly on Cr₂O₃ loading and rutilation.
- Surface morphology of TiO₂ changes much while doping Cr₂O₃ and also with rutilation.
- Atmosphere of calcination is very important in the anatase to rutile transformation in Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂.
- Argon and hydrogen atmospheres are more accelerating than air.

CHAPTER 6 STUDIES ON CuO DOPED TiO₂

Copper oxide supported on titania are profoundly important catalyst materials. In catalysis, catalytic properties are mostly affected by the phase modification of the supported titania. In order to understand the phase stability of titania on doping with different percentages of CuO, samples were prepared and studied and the results are discussed in this chapter.

Only a few methods are available in literature for preparing CuO doped TiO_2 . TiO_2 doped with 5 and 15% percentages of CuO was prepared using two different methods namely co-precipitation and wet-impregnation as described in Chapter 2. The transformations in air, inert (argon) and reducing (hydrogen) atmospheres were studied. The quantitative analysis of the phase compositions of the heated CuO/TiO₂ samples was done as follows.

6.1. Chemical analysis

The composition of samples was determined by chemical analysis using standard procedures as described in chapter 2. The percentage of CuO in each sample is as given in Table 6.1.

Method of	Expected	Experimental Composition	
Preparation	CuO(%)	CuO (%)	TiO ₂ (%)
Co-precipitation	5	4.88	94.9
	15	14.92	84.88
Wet-Impregnation	5	4.91	94.8
	15	14.82	84.97

6.2 XRD studies

XRD analysis was done on the co-precipitated CuO doped samples calcined at different temperatures. Figure 6.1 gives the XRD pattern of 5% CuO doped and figure 6.2 shows the pattern of 15% doped samples heated in air.







Figure 6.2: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated 15% CuO/TiO₂ heated at different temperatures for 6 hrs. (a) 700°C (b) 750°C (c) 800°C

It revealed that the amorphous nature of co-precipitated sample disappeared above 600° C and anatase phase appeared. At 750° C for 6 hrs heating, rutile phase emerges and 9.3% was formed for 6 hrs heating in 5%

CuO/TiO₂. in the case of 15% doped samples, the rutile formation temperature was found to be 700^oC and for 6 hrs heating 3.2 % rutile was present.

Peak intensities of anatase decreased during heating at higher temperatures in both 5 and 15% doped samples while the peak intensity for rutile was found to increase. This indicates the anatase rutile convertion during the calcinations. Also peaks corresponding to $CuTiO_3$ were observed above 700°C. Thus TiO_2 has reacted with CuO to form its titanate when the temperature is high enough. The various percentages of rutile formed in both the 5 and 15% doped samples are calculated and are tabulated in tables 6.2 and 6.3.

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	750 ⁰ C	800 ⁰ C	850°C
1	1.6	9.8	25.7
2	3.2	18.8	44.8
3	4.7	26.8	59.1
4	6.3	34.2	69.5
5	7.8	40.6	77.3
6	9.3	46.5	83.2
7	10.7	51.7	87.5
8	12.2	56.5	90.7
9	13.6	60.8	93.1
10	15.2	64.7	94.8

Table 6.2: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 5% CuO/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time in air

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	700°C	750°C	800°C
1	0	12.8	56.2
2	0	24.1	80.8
3	1.5	33.8	91.6
4	2.1	42.3	96.3
5	2.5	49.7	97.4
6	3.2	56.2	99.3
7	3.9	61.8	100
8	4.8	66.7	100
9	7.9	71.2	100
10	10.8	74.8	100

t

Table 6.3: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 15% CuO/TiO2 atdifferent temperatures and time in air.

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The rutile percentage increased significantly in co-precipitated samples irrespective of the dopent concentration but the amount of rutile at a particulat temperature and time depends on the amount of CuO present. At 800° C in 5% CuO doped sample, for 6 hrs heating 46.5% rutile was present and in 15% doped sample rutilation was complete at the same temperature and time. Onset of rutilation in 15% doped sample is 700°C, and at 750°C 8 hrs heating produced 66.7% rutile. At 850°C, the rutilation in 5% doped sample is 90.7% for 8 hrs heating.

The variation in rutilation with time of heating at different temperatures are shown in figures 6.3 and 6.4.

Figure 6.3: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in co-precipitated 5% CuO/TiO₂.



At a particular temperature and time of heating, 15% CuO doped samples gave more rutile compared to 5%. Also the presence of CuO has marked influence on the anatase-rutile transformation in TiO_2 since in case of undoped TiO_2 there is no phase transformation on heating up to 900°C. At 1000°C, anatase peaks disappeared giving only rutile peaks indicating that nutilation was complete as evident from the patterns shown in figure 3.3 of chapter 3.

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Figure 6.4: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in co-precipitated 15% CuO/TiO₂.



CuO has an influence on crystallization temperature of TiO_2 like other transition metal oxides. The onset temperature of rutilation was lowered by the presence of CuO in co-precipitated samples.

In wet-impregnated samples, the rutilation started at higher temperature compared to co-precipitated ones. This difference reveals that the method of preparation also influences the anatase to rutile transformation in CuO doped

titania. XRD patterns of wet-impregnated 5 and 15% CuO doped TiO_2 heated at different temperatures are shown in figures 6.5 and 6.6.





Rutilation in both 5 and 15% CuO doped TiO_2 wet-impregnated sample started at 750°C, and the rutilation was complete at 850°C. There is a rapid growth of rutile from anatase occurring in these samples.



Figure 6.6: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 15% CuO/TiO₂heated at different temperatures for 6 hrs. (a) 750°C(b) 800°C (c) 850°C

 $Cu K\alpha 2\theta [deg] \rightarrow$

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Heating for 6hrs produced 5.9% rutile in 5% CuO doped TiO_2 and 11.9 % rutilation was present in 15% doped sample at 750°C. The different amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated CuO doped TiO_2 are tabulated in tables 6.4 and 6.5.

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	750 ⁰ C		850°C
1	0	4.1	14.9
2	0	8.0	27.6
3	0	11.8	38.5
4	0	15.4	47.7
5	4.9	18.9	55.5
6	5.9	22.3	62.2
7	6.8	25.4	67.8
8	7.7	28.5	72.6
9	8.7	31.5	76.7
10	9.6	34.3	80.2

Table.6.4: % of rutile formed during heating of wet-impregnated 5%CuO/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time.

The rutilation in wet-impregnated 5% doped titania is different from that in 15% doped samples. The growth of rutile crystals is rapid after the onset of rutilation. Up to 750° C, the anatase phase is stable. When temperature is 850° C rutilation reaches 80% on 10 hrs heating. In the case of 15%, rutilation was almost complete at the same conditions. The difference in behaviour of co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples is due to the difference in distribution of CuO on TiO_2 , which is identified from the EDAX studies.

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	750 ⁰ C	800°C	850 ⁰ C
1	2.2	10.8	26.8
2	4.1	20.5	45.3
3	6.4	29.1	59.6
4	8.1	36.8	70.1
5	10.2	43.6	77.9
6	11.9	49.8	83.7
7	13.7	55.2	87.9
8	15.5	60.1	91.2
9	17.3	64.4	93.4
10	19.7	68.2	97.9

Table.6.5: % of rutile formed during heating of wet-impregnated 15%CuO/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time

The variation in rutilation of co-precipitated and wet-impregnated CuO doped TiO_2 samples at different temperatures with time of heating are shown in figures 6.7 and 6.8.

At higher temperature, the peak for $CuTiO_3$ appeared, which shows that there is reaction between TiO_2 and CuO at higher temperatures. Hence it can be concluded that, CuO has noticeable effect on rutile phase formation in TiO_2 and the enhancement of rutilation by the metal oxide is strongly dependent on how the sample was prepared and the amount of the doped metal oxide.





In both samples rutilation increases with temperature and this crystallographic rearrangement is highly decided by the method of preparation and also the amount of CuO present in the doped samples.





The activation energy for the anatase-rutile transformation was calculated and is given in table 6.6. The activation energy calculated for the transformation in co-precipitated samples in presence of 5% CuO is found to be 33.93 k cal/mol while in presence of 15% CuO it is 30.59 k cal / mol. In

case of wet-impregnated samples the activation energy for the transformation was found to be 38.95 in presence of 5% CuO while in presence of 15% it is 33.22 kcal/mol. For undoped TiO₂, activation energy for anatase-rutile transformation was reported to be ~90 K cal/mol as explained in the previous chapters. Here also among 5 & 15% CuO 15% has more lowering of activation energy and hence it is more accelerating. Also it is observed that the activation energy for the transformation was found to be very close to each other in co-precipitated 5% CuO/TiO₂ and wet-impregnated 15% CuO/TiO₂.

Method of Preparation	CuO (%)	Activation energy K cal/mol
Co-precipitation	5	33.93
	15	30.59
Wet-Impregnation	5	38.95
	15	33.22

Table 6.6: Activation energies for the anatase-rutile transformation in CuO doped TiO₂.

Table 6.7 shows the crystallite size of anatase present in the CuO doped TiO_2 samples at different calcination temperatures, Marked change was seen on increasing the CuO percentage, but it increased with increase in temperature. When the rutilation was started, the crystallite size of anatase attained a size of 11.6 nm in 5% doped co-precipitated samples and 2.39 nm in wet-impregnated ones. Hence, depending on the method of preparation, the crystallite size may vary and the growth in crystallite size with temperature is also determined by method of preparation. The crystallite size increased with rutilation and amount of CuO.

Sample	Heating	Surface area	Crystallite size
	Temperature (°C)	(m²/g)	of anatase (nm)
Undoped TiO ₂	110	162.58	a
	300	109.59	a [*]
	700	27.2	4.8
	900	9.13	14.2
	1000	2.54	b*'
Co-precipitated 5% CuO/TiO ₂	110	112.3	a
	750	4.93	11.6
	850	1.34	17.76
Co-precipitated 15% CuO/TiO ₂	110	132.2	a
	750	6.09	4.33
	850	0.092	31.54
Wet-impregnated 5% CuO/TiO ₂	110	92.7	a [*]
	750	12.3	2.39
	850	5.7	10.7
Wet-impregnated 15% CuO/TiO ₂	110	119.7	a
	750	5.5	9.87
	850	2.77	15.3

Table 6.7: Crystallite size and surface area values of un doped and CuO doped TiO₂ Samples heated at different temperatures for 8 hrs.

* a- Amorphous TiO₂ * b- Anatase phase absent

6.3 Surface area studies

Surface area changes with percentage of CuO and calcination temperature. The surface area obtained for co-precipitated 5% CuO/TiO₂ was 112.3 m²/g, and for 15% doped sample it was 132.2 m²/g before calcination. In the case of wet-impregnated ones, the surface area was 92.7 m²/g and 119.7 m²/g in 5 and 15% CuO/TiO₂ samples respectively before heating.

Like other samples, here also, co-precipitated ones have much higher surface area. Out of all the samples, maximum surface area was obtained in sample containing 15% CuO before heating. The surface area decreased on rutilation in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated ones as in the case of other samples discussed in earlier Chapters.

Here also a sudden decrease in surface area was observed in coprecipitated and in wet-impregnated samples calcined at 850° C due to the onset of rutilation and titania particle enlargement. The crystallite size results are also in parallel with these observations. At temperatures when the TiO₂ was almost fully converted to rutile, the surface area became 1.34 m²/g, and 5.7 m²/g in 5% doped co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples. In case of 15% doped samples, the surface area values are 0.092 m²/g, and 2.77 m²/g in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples respectively. The decrease in surface area was more severe in co-precipitated ones. So, like other samples discussed earlier, the method of preparation and percentage of CuO have a • greater role in deciding the surface area of these samples. So, it is very clear that, CuO enlarges titania particle, which would occur on high temperature calcination. Formation of copper titanate also may be one reason.

6.4 Scanning Electron Microscopic studies.

To understand the morphological changes of the titania doped with CuO. Scanning Electron Microscopic studies on the samples were performed. Scanning Electron Micrographs of undoped TiO₂ before heating (containing anatase) and after heating at 1000° C for 8 hrs (containing rutile) are shown in figure 3.9 of chapter 3. Titania particles were found to be aggregated in the pure form (anatase). On heating at 1000° C for 8 hrs, some rearrangement occured to form rutile. During this conversion, the aggregates of particles were converted into agglomerates where the particles were rigidly joined. Also there was no appreciable change in the particle size during the conversion in undoped TiO₂.

The surface of both anatase and rutile samples were found to be rough before doping. Micrographs of CuO doped TiO₂ prepared by co-precipitation and wet-impregnation are shown in figures 6.9 and 6.10. It was found that in wet-impregnated sample increase in particle size takes place on rutilation. before rutilation, the average particle size is about 2 μ m while after rutilation most of the particles are of more than 150 μ m size. The surface morphology also changes considerabily. The surface becomes more or less smooth after rutilation. Morphology of co-precipitated sample is more or less same before and after heat treatment. The particle size is higher than that of wetimpregnated samples before rutilation. There is increase in particle size during the anatase rutile transformation.

Thus the surface morphology of CuO doped TiO_2 has some changes with rutilation. The distribution of CuO is uniform in co-precipitated samples and not in wet-impregnated system. This is identified from the EDAX analysis. This is the reason for lower rutilation in wet-impregnated system. Hence it is clear that there occurs some rearrangement in TiO_2 lattice. There is a crystallite size enlargement occuring on doping CuO, which reflects in lower surface area of the CuO doped sample. This process depends on the method of preparation of:doped samples.

Figure: 6.9. Scanning Electron Micrographs of co-precipitated CuO/TiO₂ (a) Before rutilation (b) after rutilation.



Figure: 6.10. Scanning Electron Micrographs of wet-impregnated CuO/TiO₂ (a) Before rutilation (b) After rutilation.



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6.5 Transformation in Argon and Hydrogen atmospheres.

The anatase rutile transformation of CuO doped TiO_2 in different atmospheres were studied to understand the effect of different reaction atmospheres on the anatase rutile transformation. Argon (inert) and hydrogen (reducing) atmospheres are used in the investigations.

Figure.6.11. represents the XRD patterns of CuO doped TiO_2 heated in argon atmosphere at 700^oC for 0.5 hrs. The anatase-rutile conversion was found to be different in argon compared to that in air.





In presence of argon atmosphere, the onset of rutilation was lowered and at 650° C in co-precipitated CuO/TiO₂, the fraction of rutile formed is 39.8 % in 5% CuO doped TiO₂ for 0.5 hrs. In air atmosphere at the same conditions, no rutile was formed. In 15% doped sample, the rutile conversion was 54.8% at the same conditions. In both samples $700^{\circ}/0.5$ hrs heating results in completion of rutilation in argon atmosphere. Thus the anatase rutile conversion is different in argon than that in air atmosphere. In air at 750° C, the rutilation was just started in 5% CuO/TiO₂ and in 15% doped sample it occured at 700° C. The percentages of rutile formed in co-precipitated 5 and 15% CuO doped TiO₂ at different temperatures are tabulated in Table.6.8.

Temperature (⁰ C)	Rutile formed (%)		
	5% CuO/TiO ₂	15% CuO/TiO ₂	
650	39.8	54.8	
675	74.6	88.7	
700	100	100	

Table.6.8: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated CuO doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs heating.

The extent of acceleration is different in this case as compared to air. The amount of rutile formed is higher at any temperature for 15% sample as compared to 5% doped samples as evident from the table 6.8.

In wet-impregnated samples on set of rutilation is at around 650° C, 5% CuO doped TiO₂ sample gave 12.3% rutile while 15% doped sample produced 31.8% at the same temperature. The XRD patterns are shown in figure 6.12.





The effect of temperature is same as that in co-precipitated one except that rutilation was not completed at 700° C for wet-impregnated samples. At 750° C, rutilation was 78.3 and 81.3% in 5 and 15% doped samples respectively. Different amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated samples heated in argon atmosphere are summarized in table 6.9.
Temperature	Rutile formed		
(⁰ C)	5% CuO/TiO ₂	15% CuO/TiO ₂	
650	12.3	31.8	
675	28.4	46.9	
700	47.8	63.4	
750	78.3	81,.3	

Table.6.9: % of rutile formed in wet-impegnated CuO doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs.

The variation of rutilation during heating in argon atmosphere in CuO/TiO_2 samples is evident in figure 6.13. Here the transformation is accelerated but the extent of acceleration strongly depends on the method of preparation. The lower distribution in wet-impregnated samples may be the cause for the variation in transformation.

Here also the importance of oxygen vacancies on the phase transformation rate of TiO_2 in the presence of CuO seems to be confirmed by a more rapid transformation in argon than in air. Hence it can be concluded that argon atmosphere increases oxygen vacancies concentration and thus it favours the anatase-rutile transformation.



In hydrogen atmosphere, the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be low as compared to that in argon atmosphere. The XRD patterns of coprecipitated and wet-impregnated samples are given in figures 6.14 and 6.15.

Temperature (^oC)





In co-precipitated samples, it is observed that on set of rutilation is 700°C for 2 hrs heating. In wet-impregnated sample also rutilation was started at this temperature. This is higher temperature than that in argon atmosphere.



Figure.6.15: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated CuOdoped TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere at 700⁰/2hrs. (a) Undoped TiO₂ (b) 5% CuO/TiO₂ (c) 15% CuO/TiO₂

The co-precipitated 5% doped samples gave 17.4 % rutile at 700° C and 29.8% rutilation was found in 15% doped sample for 2 hrs heating at the same temperature. At the same conditions, in wet- impregnated samples 4.3 and 12.8 % rutilation was found in 5 and 15% CuO doped TiO₂ respectively. Tables

6.10 and 6.11 represent the different fractions of rutile formed in coprecipitated and wet-impregnated systems.

T	Rutile formed (%)		
Temperature ⁰ C	5% CuO/TiO ₂	15% CuO/TiO ₂	
650	0	0	
700	17.4	29.8	
725	• 36.6	53.7	
750	49.3	65.8	

Table.6.10: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated CuO doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

Table.6.11: % of rutile formed in wet-impregnated CuO doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

Γ	Rutile formed (%)		
Temperature [°] C	5% CuO/TiO ₂	15% CuO/TiO ₂	
650	0	0	
700	4.3	12.8	
725	18.4	26.7	
750	21.7	40.3	

Eventhough in both the samples rutilation started at the same temperature in hydrogen atmosphere, the amount of conversion is different. At 750° C, 49.3% rutile is formed in co-precipitated 5% CuO doped TiO₂ sample while in 15% doped samples the rutile conversion was 65.8 for 2 hrs heating.

In case of wet-impregnated 5% CuO doped TiO_2 sample rutilation was 21.7 % while in 15% doped samples it was 40.3% at the same conditions. Variation in rutilation with temperature in CuO/TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere is shown in figure 6.16.

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Figure.6.16:Variation in rutilation of CuO doped TiO<sub>2</sub> samples heated in
Hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs at different temperatures.
1 - 5%CuO/TiO<sub>2</sub> 2 - 15%CuO/TiO<sub>2</sub> (Co-precipitated)
3 - 5%CuO/TiO<sub>2</sub> 4 - 15%CuO/TiO<sub>2</sub> (Wet-impregnated)
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Therefore it can be believed that there is some lattice defects in the samples during the heat treatment in reducing or inert atmospheres. This is experienced as colour changes of the samples. The intensity of colour depends on the

amount of dopant. Reduction of the oxides also may be taking place which also may be reason for colour change. This confirms the effect of concentration of CuO is more important in the phase transformation. This is observed in air and argon atmosphere also. Hence it can be concluded that the anatase –rutile transformation in CuO doped TiO_2 strongly depends on the concentration of dopants, method of preparation and the atmosphere of calcination.

6.6 Conclusions

The following are the conclusions made out of the above studies.

- Anatase to rutile transformation temperature is lowered, much on doping TiO₂ with CuO.
- The method of preparation, percentage of CuO and calcination temperature have marked effect on rutilation.
- \square CuTiO₃ phase is formed during heating in air.
- CuTiO₃ formation is independent of rutilation and depends only on the temperature.
- On loading CuO noticeable change in surface area and crystallization temperature were observed with rutilation.
- Surface area of CuO doped TiO_2 is decided by the amount of CuO and method of preparation of doped sample.
- Crystallite size of anatase increases on loading CuO and during rutilation.
- Surface morphology of titania doped with CuO is changed on heating.
- Argon atmosphere has more accelerating effect than hydrogen and air.

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CHAPTER 7 STUDIES ON MnO₂ DOPED TiO₂

In this Chapter studies on the effect of preparation method on rutilation and other properties like surface area changes, crystallite size variation and morphological changes are presented. In order to study the effect of amount of MnO₂ and reaction atmospheres TiO₂ doped with different percentages of MnO₂ was prepared using two methods, as described in Chapter 2. The transformation was studied in air, argon and hydrogen atmospheres as a function of temperature and time using XRD, Surface area measurements and SEM.

7.1. Chemical analysis

The composition of MnO_2 doped TiO₂ samples was determined by chemical analysis using standard procedures as described in chapter 2. The percentage of MnO_2 in each sample is as given in Table 7.1.

Method of	Expected MnO ₂ (%)		Experimental Composition	
Preparation		MnO ₂ (%)	TiO ₂ (%)	
Co-precipitation	5	4.97	94.89	
	15	14.87	84.93	
Wet-Impregnation	5	4.88	94.87	
	15	14.91	84.77	

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7.2 XRD studies

An interesting feature of these samples was that, the rutilation started at a lower temperature as compared to other transition metaloxide doped TiO_2 studied. The XRD pattern of the co-precipitated samples heated at different temperatures in air for 6 hrs are given in figures 7.1 and 7.2.

Figure 7.1: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ heated at different temperatures for 6 hrs. (a) 650°C (b) 700°C (c) 750°C



In both 5 and 15% MnO_2 doped samples, rutilation started at 650°C. In 5% MnO_2 doped sample, 4.1% rutile is formed for 4 hrs and in 15%, 8.5% rutile was formed at same time.





In co-precipitated sample calcined at 650° C, anatase as well as rutile peaks appeared in the patterns. On increasing the calcination temperature, the

peak intensity of anatase decreased while that of rutile increased showing the anatase-rutile transformation during the heat treatment at different temperatures and time. At 650° C, 5% MnO₂ doped TiO₂ gave 6.2% rutile for 6 hrs heating while 12.6% rutilation was observed for 15% doped sample for the same duration. This clearly shows that the conversion depends on the amount of MnO₂ doped.

The different rutile percentages obtained at different temperatures and time of heating are summarized in tables 7.2 and 7.3.

	Rutile formed (%)		
Time of heating (hrs)	650°C	700 ⁰ C	750⁰C
1	0	12.9	28.4
2	0	24.2	48.8
3	0	34.0	63.3
4	4.1	42.5	73.8
5	5.3	50.0	81.2
6	6.2	56.5	86.6
7	7.1	62.1	90.4
8	8.2	67.0	93.1
9	9.1	71.3	95.0
10	10.3	75.0	96.4

Table 7.2: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time.

Rutilation at 700° C for 5% MnO₂ doped TiO₂ was 56.5 for 6 hrs heating while 84.5% rutile was formed in 15% doped samples for the same time. In

15% doped sample almost complete anatase to rutile transformation was observed at 700° C 10 hrs heating.

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	650°C	675 ⁰ C	700 ⁰ C
1	2.2	14.4	26.7
2	4.3	25.2	46.2
3	6.5	33.5	60.6
4	8.5	39.8	71.1
5	10.7	44.7	78.8
6	12.6	48.5	84.5
7	14.5	51.5	88.6
8	16.4	53.9	91.6
9	18.2	56.2	93.8
10	20.1	57.8	95.5

Table 7.3: % of rutile formed during heating of co-precipitated 15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂ at			
different temperatures and time.			

The variation in rutilation with time of heating at different temperatures in 5 and 15% MnO_2 doped TiO₂ co-precipitated samples is shown in figures 7.3 and 7.4 respectively. The 15% doped co-precipitated sample was converted almost completely to rutile at 700°C for 10 hrs. In these samples, rutilation was started and completed at lower temperatures as compared to pure TiO₂. Hence, it is obvious that MnO_2 has a marked effect on rutilation.

Figure 7.3: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in co-precipitated 5% MnO₂/TiO₂.



It was found that the rutile formation is enhanced by heating at higher temperatures. Also the time of heating determines the amount of rutile at any particular temperature. Among 5 and 15% doped samples, 15% doped ones produces more rutile compared to 5% at any particular temperature and time.

Thus it is clear that the amount of MnO_2 plays a major role in deciding the phase transformation in TiO₂.



Figure 7.4: Variation of rutile % with time at different temperatures in co-precipitated 15%MnO₂/TiO₂.

The wet-impregnated samples behaved differently from that of coprecipitated one during the heat treatment even though the effect of different percentages is the same. The quantitative measurements of the rutile fractions produced at different temperatures and time of heating were done using XRD. The XRD patterns of wet-impregnated samples are given in figures 7.5 and 7.6.



Figure 7.5: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ heated at different temperatures for 6 hrs. (a) 800°C (b) 825°C (c) 850°C

In the samples calcined at 700° C and above, some peaks of manganese titanate (MnTiO₄) were also present along with peaks due to anatase and rutile. At the onset of rutilation, no peaks of MnO₂ or MnTiO₄ were seen, but, as the intensity of rutile peaks increased on increasing calcination temperature,

 $MnTiO_4$ peaks also appeared in the pattern along with rutile peaks. On further calcination these peaks were seen to be more intense, revealing the growth of rutile during high temperature calcination. The appearance of $MnTiO_4$ peaks mirrored the fact that titania reacted with MnO_2 to form the titanate.



Figure 7.6: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated 15% MnO₂/TiO₂ heated at different temperatures. (a) 800°C(b) 850°C(c) 900°C

 $Cu K\alpha 2\theta [deg] \rightarrow$

Different Percentages of rutile formed in wet-impregnated 5 and 15% MnO_2 doped TiO₂ samples are given in tables 7.4 and 7.5. It is found that at any time of heating at a particular temperature, wet-impregnated samples produced lower rutile compared to co-precipitated ones.

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	800°C	825⁰C	850°C
1	0	9.4	41.2
2	0	17.2	65.5
3	0	24.7	79.4
4	5.1	31.5	88.1
5	6.3	37.7	93.2
6	7.6	43.4	95.9
7	8.8	48.5	97.5
8	10.3	53.2	100
9	11.6	57.4	100
10	12.8	61.2	100

Table.7.4: % of rutile formed during heating of wet-impregnated 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ at different temperatures and time.

In both 5 and 15% MnO_2 doped TiO₂ samples onset of rutilation was found at 800^oC, 7.6% rutile was formed in 5% doped sample for 6 hrs heating and 15% doped sample got 10.1% rutile at the same time. 15% doped Sample

got rutilated completely at 850° C in 6 hrs, where as in the 5% loaded system, the rutilation was completed at 850° C for 8 hrs heating.

Time of heating	Rutile formed (%)		
(hrs)	800°C	825 ⁰ C	850°C
1	0	16.2	53.5
2	3.4	29.5	78.4
3	5.3	40.9	89.9
4	6.8	50.6	95.3
5	8.4	58.4	97.8
6	10.1	65.1	100
7	11.6	70.7	100
8	13.2	75.4	100
9	14.7	79.3	100
10	16.2	82.7	100

Table.7.5: % of rutile formed during heating of wet-impregnated 15% MnO2/TiO2at different temperatures and time

The variations in rutilation with time of heating at diferent temperatures are shown in figures 7.7 and 7.8. It is found that rutilation increases with increase in temperature and time of heating. Variations of rutilation in 15% doped sample are different from that of 5% doped ones. Also the variation in rutilation is lower in wet-impregnated samples compared to co-precipitated ones. The difference in rutilation may be due to the difference in distribution of MnO_2 over TiO_2 . In co-precipitated samples there is uniform distribution of MnO_2 since both are precipitated from a homogeneous solution.





Therefore it is proved that rutilation strongly depends on the amount of dopent in addition to method of preparation and calcination temperature. It reflects clearly that, the co-precipitated one has higher rutile percentage at any temperature and the wet-impregnated one has the lower rutile percentage.

 MnO_2 has created some oxygen vacancies on TiO₂ surface, when calcined. This might be the reason, for the easy rutilation of these samples. This is in accordance with the literature reports, which state that, the formation of oxygen vacancies are the basic reason for rutilation since it enhances the rupture of Ti — O bonds of anatase.





The activation energy for the anatase-rutile transformation was calculated using the method explained in chapter 2 and is given in table 7.6. It is found that the activation energy for the transformation in co-precipitated

samples in presence of 5% MnO_2 is found to be 30.59 kcal/mol while in presence of 15% MnO_2 it is 26.05 kcal/mol. In case of wet-impregnated samples the activation energy for the transformation was found to be 63.33 kcal/mol in presence of 5% MnO_2 while in presence of 15% it is 55.44 kcal/mol. For undoped TiO₂, activation energy for anatase-rutile transformation was reported to be ~90 K cal/mol. Hence among 5 & 15% MnO_2 15% has more lowering of activation energy and hence it is more accelerating.

Method of Preparation	$\frac{MnO_2}{(\%)}$	Activation energy K cal/mol
Co-precipitation	5	30.59
	15	26.05
Wet-Impregnation	5	63.33
	15	55.44

Table 7.6: Activation energies for the anatase-rutile transformation in MnO_2 doped TiO₂.

It is clear that the lowering of activation energy is different in wetimpregnated system as compared to co-precipitated ones. So an analysis of the activation energy values determined is useful in understanding the relative accelerating effect of MnO_2 doping. It is clear that in presence of MnO_2 , the activation energy is lowered much as compared to undoped.

The crystallite size of anatase after calcinations of these samples at temperatures when drastic changes in physical properties took place was calculated. The results are given in Table 7.7.

Here the anatase crystallites were seen to grow during the phase transfromation from anatase to rutile. In co-precipitated 5% MnO_2/TiO_2 at 700[°]C/8hrs the anatase crystallites had grown to a size of 12.4 nm (in this

sample 67.0 % of anatase was irreversibly converted to rutile). In case of 15% MnO_2/TiO_2 , anatase crystallite size was found to be 13.6 nm at the same condition. This trend is same for wetimpregnated samples also.

Sample	Heating	Surface area (m^2/r)	Crystallite size
	Temperature (⁰ C)	(m^2/g)	of anatase (nm)
Undoped TiO ₂	110	162.58	a
	300	109.59	a [*]
	700	27.2	4.8
	900	9.13	14.2
	1000	2.54	b*
Co-precipitated 5% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	110	95.87	a*
5% MinO ₂ /11O ₂	700	7.07	12.4
	750	1.16	22.8
Co-precipitated	110	124.36	a
15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	700	6.4	13.6
	750	0.98	23.9
Wet-impregnated	110	90.76	a
5% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	800	10.37	12.7
	850	2.26	20.6
Wet-impregnated 15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	110	103.81	a*
1.5.76 IVIIIO ₂ / 11O ₂	800	7.79	11.3
	850	1.97	21.4

Table 7.7: Crystallite size and surface area values of un doped and MnO2 dopedTiO2 Samples heated at different temperatures for 8 hrs

* a- Amorphous TiO₂ * b- Anatase phase absent

It is noteworthy that, in MnO_2/TiO_2 like Fe₂O₃/TiO₂, Cr₂O₃/TiO₂, NiO/TiO₂, and CuO/TiO₂, as the rutile percentage increased, the anatase crystallite size also increased, but to different extents, depending on the method of preparation and nature of the metal oxide doped on TiO₂.

7.3 Surface area studies

The surface area decreased drastically with rutilation and this decrease was more noticeable in co-precipitated as compared to wet-impregnated ones and also with MnO₂ percentage. For co-precipitated 5% MnO₂ doped TiO₂ the values are 95.87 m²/g, 124.36 m²/g for 5 and 15% doped samples respectively before calcination. In the case of wet-impregnated samples, the surface area values are 90.76 m²/g and 103.81m²/g respectively in 5 and 15% doped samples. The co-precipitated ones have larger surface area and on increasing the MnO₂ percentage, better surface area is obtained before heating. On increasing the calcination temperature to 700°C, the surface area decreased very much and it became 7.07 m^2/g and 6.4 m^2/g in co-precipitated 5 and 15% doped ones and at 800° C, wet-impregnated 5% doped sample gave surface area 10.37 m²/g and in 15% doped system it is 7.79 m²/g. At the completion of rutilation, surface area of samples decreased very much. These changes clearly indicate the crystallographic rearrangement in TiO₂. Also the size of particles had grown during the phase transformation, which is supported by the Scanning Electron Micrographs of these samples.

In all these samples, even though, no direct relation between crystallite size and surface area could be made, a marked decrease in surface area could be seen along with a significant increase in crystallite size. At the onset of rutilation surface area was decreased and severe decrease occurred when rutilation was completed, which may be due to growth in particle size and sintering. This is consistent with XRD data.

On comparing with the surface area of pure TiO_2 , the surface area decreased on loading MnO_2 . It is very clear from all these observations that the surface area decreased noticeably during rutilation, which in turn is dependent on preparation method and calcination temperature. The decrease was greater compared to pure TiO_2 . So, MnO_2 enhances the reduction in surface area during calcination.

7.4 Scanning Electron Microscopic studies.

In order to understand the changes in particle shape and size upon rutilation, the SEM analysis of MnO_2 doped TiO₂ samples before and after rutilation was carried out. Particles with sharp octahedral and needle like structures were present in the micrograph shown in Figures 7.9 and 7.10. Scanning Electron Micrographs of undoped anatase and rutile are shown in chapter 3.

The distribution of MnO₂ over TiO₂ is clearly found in the micrographs before rutilation, which is identified by EDAX analysis. After rutilation the individual particle size increased, which resulted in the decrease in surface area of the rutilated samples. All the particles were more or less similar in shape in co-precipitated sample. But the surface of wet-impregnated samples was found to be much aggregated even after rutilation. In these samples, the formation of manganese titanate is not completed and also dopent distribution is there on the surface, which is observed in EDAX analysis. Therefore it is believed that the formation of manganese titanate is independent of rutilation and it depends only on the temperature. For different titanates the temperatures are different since the free energy of formation depends on the nature of metaloxide doped on TiO_2 .

Figure: 7.9. Scanning Electron Micrographs of co-precipitated MnO₂/TiO₂ (a) Before rutilation (b) After rutilation.

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Figure: 7.10. Scanning Electron Micrographs of wet-impregnated MnO₂/TiO₂ (a) Before rutilation (b) After rutilation.



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7.5 Transformation in Argon and Hydrogen atmospheres.

The anatase rutile transformations in Argon (inert) and hydrogen (reducing) atmospheres are investigated to understand the influence of environment on the transformation.

Figure.7.8. represents the XRD patterns of MnO_2/TiO_2 heated in argon atmosphere. The anatase-rutile transformation was found to be more rapid in argon than in air.

In presence of argon atmosphere, the onset of rutilation was lowered to 600^{0} C in co-precipitated samples. In 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ the fraction of rutile formed is 12.3% and 42.9% rutile is converted from anatase phase in 15% MnO₂/TiO₂ in argon atmosphere for 0.5 hrs heating at 600^oC. This is much different from that in air. At 650^oC, the rutilation was found to be 88.7% in 5% doped sample while in 15% doped sample, rutilation was complete at the same conditions. The fraction of rutile formed in co-precipitated 5 and 15% MnO₂/TiO₂ at different temperatures are tabulated in table 7.8.

	Rutile formed		
Temperature (⁰ C)	5% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	
600	12.3	42.9	
625	68.9	81.6	
• 650	88.7	100	

Table.7.8: Fraction of rutile formed in co-precipitated MnO₂ doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs heating.



Figure.7.11: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated MnO₂ doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at 650°C for 0.5 hrs.
(a) Undoped TiO₂ (b) 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ (c) 15% MnO₂/TiO₂

The amount of rutile formed is higher at each temperature and time of heating in 15% doped sample as compared to 5% as evident from the table. In air atmosphere, the onset of rutilation was 650° C (vide tables 7.2 and 7.3). At this temperature rutilation is completed in argon atmosphere.

In wet-impregnated samples at 600° C, there is no rutilation. The on set of rutilation is observed at 625° C. The XRD patterns of samples heated at 700° C are shown in figure 7.12.





Further effect of temperature and time is same as that in co-precipitated one. Here also 15% doped samples gave more rutile than 5% doped MnO_2/TiO_2 . The different amounts of rutile formed in wet-impregnated samples are summarized in table7.9.

Temperature	Rutile formed	
(⁰ C)	5% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂
600	0	0
625	7.8	16.4
650	22.7	38.8
700	71.5	89.8

Table.7.9: % of rutile formed in wet-impegnated MnO₂ doped TiO₂ samples heated in argon atmosphere at different temperatures for 0.5 hrs heating.

At 700° C, the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be 71.5 and 89.8% in 5 and 15% doped samples respectively. The formation of manganese titanate is not found in any of the patterns, which confirms that the temperature is not sufficient for the formation of it and the formation is independent of rutilation.

The variation in rutilation during heating in argon atmosphere in MnO_2/TiO_2 samples is shown in figure 7.13. Here the transformation is accelerated but the extent of acceleration strongly depends on the method of preparation. The non-uniform distribution in wet-impregnated samples may be the cause for the deviation in transformation. Co-precipitated samples are precipitated from a homogeneous solution containing titanium and manganese ions.

The importance of oxygen vacancies on the phase transition rate of TiO_2 in the presence of MnO_2 seems to be also confirmed by a more rapid transformation in argon than in air. Hence it can be concluded that argon atmosphere increases oxygen vacancies concentration and thus it favours the anatase-rutile transformation.



In hydrogen atmosphere, the anatase-rutile transformation was found to be low as compared to that in inert atmosphere and more than that in air. The XRD patterns of co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples in different compositions are given in figures 7.14 and 7.15.





Figure.7.14: XRD Patterns of co-precipitated MnO₂/TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere at 750⁹/2hrs.
(a) Undoped TiO₂ (b) 5% MnO₂/TiO₂ (c) 15% MnO₂/TiO₂

It is observed that on set of rutilation is different for co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples. In case of co-precipitated, rutilation started at 675° C for 2 hrs heating, while in wet-impregnated ones it occured at 700° C, which is different from that in argon atmosphere. The co-precipitated 5% doped samples gave 4.3 % rutile and 11.7 % rutilation was observed in 15% doped sample for 2 hrs heating at 675° C. When the temperature was increased to 750° C,

rutilation also increased and it became 32.6 and 58.3% in 5 and 15% doped samples.

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Figure.7.15: XRD Patterns of wet-impregnated MnO<sub>2</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere at 750<sup>0</sup>/2hrs.
(a) Undoped TiO<sub>2</sub> (b) 5% MnO<sub>2</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> (c) 15% MnO<sub>2</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub>
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Tables 7.10 and 7.11 represent the different fractions of rutile formed in co-precipitated and wet-impregnated samples during the calcinations at different temperatures and time.

Temperature ⁰ C	Rutile formed (%)	
-	5% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂
650	0	0
675	4.3	11.7
700	18.6	27.8
750	32.6	58.3

Table.7.10: % of rutile formed in co-precipitated MnO₂ doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs.

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Table.7.11: % of rutile formed in wet-impregnated MnO₂ doped TiO₂ system during heating in hydrogenatmosphere for 2 hrs.

	Rutile formed.		
Temperature ⁰ C	5% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	15% MnO ₂ /TiO ₂	
675	0	0	
700	9.8	13.9	
750	12.4	26.7	

In wet-impregnated samples rutilation started slowly as compared to coprecipitated and also the formation of rutile is different at different temperatures, which again confirm that the transformation highly depends on the dopent concentration irrespective of the atmosphere of calcination. The variation in rutilation with temperature in MnO_2 doped TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere is shown in figure.7.16.

Figure.7.16: Variation of rutilation in MnO₂/TiO₂ samples heated in hydrogen atmosphere for 2 hrs at different temperatures.
1- 5% MnO₂/TiO₂. 2 - 15% MnO₂/TiO₂. (Co-precipitated)
3 - 5% MnO₂/TiO₂. 4 - 15% MnO₂/TiO₂. (Wet-impregnated)



Wet-impregnated 5% doped sample for 2 hrs heating at 700°C produced 9.8 % rutile while 15% has given 13.9% rutile at the same conditions. The fraction of rutile converted increased to 12.4 and 26.7 % respectively in 5 and 15% doped samples when temperature is increased to 750°C. There occurs some lattice defects in the sample during the heat treatment in reducing atmospheres. This results in the crystallographic rearrangements to form rutile,

a more stable phase of titania. This clearly indicates the effect of MnO_2 is more important in the phase transformation and amount of MnO_2 also has some important role in the phase transformations. This trend was observed in air and argon atmospheres also.

Hence it can be concluded that the anatase –rutile transformation in MnO_2 doped TiO₂ strongly depends on the concentration of dopants, method of preparation and the atmosphere of calcinations.

7.6 Conclusions

From all the above observations the following conclusions can be made.

- On loading TiO₂ with MnO₂ phase transformation occurs on heating at higher temperatures.
- The onset and completion temperatures of rutilation were much lower compared to all other metal oxide doped systems studied.
- \square Method of preparation as well as the quantity of MnO₂ play major role in deciding rutile formation.
- \square MnTiO₄ phase was formed above 700^oC
- Crystallite size enlargement of anatase takes place during rutilation and MnO₂ doping.
- Surface area decreases sharply with rutilation
- \square Surface morphology of TiO₂ changes on doping MnO₂.
- The anatase-rutile transformation is more rapid in argon atmosphere than that in air and hydrogen.
- The order of enhancing rutilation by different atmospheres is in the order Argon > hydrogen > air.
CHAPTER 8

STUDIES ON LIQUID PHASE PHOTO OXIDATION OF TOLUENE

The first change in benzoic acid preparation came in 1850s when hippuric acid (C₆H₅CONHCH₂COOH), from the urine of horses and cattle, replaced gum benzoin as the starting material. Hippuric acid was used extensively until 1870, when coal tar raw materials were utilized for the first time. [229,230] Phthalic acid was also used as the raw material until 1890, when the hydrolysis of benzo trichloride took over the bulk production. This route and the route employing chlorination of toluene to benzyl chloride and subsequent oxidation with HNO3 to benzoic acid remained as the major production route until after World War I. After World War II, started another change in manufacturing technique of benzoic acid, as the air oxidation of toluene was started in Germany and after the war, this method was carried over to US. The air oxidation in liquid phase using cobalt catalysts has now become the main manufacturing method in US. Considering the present and future petrochemical economic factors, it is difficult to fore see any commercial raw material other than toluene for benzoic acid production. [229,230] Benzoic acid has got many industrial applications such as, in medicines, veterinary medicines, food and industrial preservatives, dye stuffs, synthetic fiber, etc. [229].

 TiO_2 is the most used and popular photo catalyst for various reasons, but unfortunately, although a large shift of light absorption in the visible region has been observed in almost all cases, the presence of dopant metal species has not been reported benificial when photo oxidation reactions of organic substrates in aqueous systems were carried out. [231-234]. Some authors have reported

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that the recombination rate of the electron-hole pairs increases for chromium doped TiO_2 with respect to undoped TiO_2 . The photo catalytic oxidation of acetic acid over TiO_2 was markedly enhanced by dissolved copper ions [235]. Several authors have studied the TiO_2 photo catalytic oxidation of benzene and toluene in air or oxygen. Formation of CO_2 was reported in all these studies. [236-248] Analysis of the products recovered from used TiO_2 by various solvents showed the formation of benzyl alcohol, benzaldehyde [241] and also benzoic acid [238,239] in the case of toluene oxidation. Similarly it was reported that the photo catalytic decomposition of toluene in aqueous TiO_2 suspension was significantly promoted in the presence of copper, ferrous and manganese ions [249]. However there is no promoting effect on the photo catalytic decomposition of phenol in the presence of silver ion. [250] More over many other dopents are available on metal doped TiO₂ preparations to efficiently decompose toxic compounds.

Air oxidation of toluene using transition metal oxides doped TiO_2 in liquid phase in photochemical pathway is yet to be reported. The reaction was carried out using photo reactor described in chapter 2 by taking aqueous suspension of toluene containing a little hydrogen peroxide in presence of TiO_2 doped with 15% transition metal oxides Fe_2O_3 . Cr_2O_3 , NiO, MnO_2 and CuO prepared by co-precipitation method containing anatase, rutile and mixture of anatase and rutile phases (50% each anatase and rutile phases). Irradiations were done for different hours and the samples collected after particular duration were analysed for the benzoic acid content. The activity studies were done after calcination of the samples at temperatures, when required alteration in properties occurred. The colour of the catalyst used was turned brown after irradiation and settled at the bottom of the photo reactor.

8.1. Studies on undoped TiO₂.

To compare the photo oxidation of aqueous suspension of toluene in presence of undoped TiO_2 with transition metal oxides doped TiO_2 , experiments were carried out using the all of them. It was seen that sample collected after irradiation for 6 hrs contained 7.3% benzoic acid. Various amounts of benzoic acid formed in presence of undoped TiO_2 is tabulated in table 8.1.

Irradiation time (Hrs)	Benzoic acid formed (%)
0	0
2	0
4	0
6	7.3

13.4

23.9

28.7

8

10

12

Table: 8.1. The percentage conversion to benzoic acid during oxidation of
toluene with undoped TiO2 containing anatasae phase.

The conversion obtained with undoped anatase TiO_2 for 12hrs irradiation was 28.7%. Figure 8.1 represent the variation in benzoic acid formation in presence of undoped TiO_2 . It was observed that the benzoic acid formation increases with irradiation time. Benzoic acid formation in presence of transition metal oxide doped TiO_2 is compared with that using undoped TiO_2 .

Figure 8.1. Variation in benzoic acid formation in presence of undoped TiO₂. (anatase)



8.2. Studies on Fe₂O₃/TiO₂.

Studies on the photo oxidation of toluene over 15% Fe₂O₃ doped TiO₂ find that toluene oxidation is considerably affected by the phase transformation in TiO₂. The conversion obtained with Fe₂O₃ on anatase TiO₂ was 92.4% for 10hrs irradiation. But the conversion obtained was 36.4% when anatase phase was replaced with rutile. The benzoic acid formation with different phase composition of TiO₂ is given in table 8.2. The oxidation was found to be lowered by the phase transformation in TiO₂ support. Rutilation reduced the oxidation process and also percentage conversion was low with Fe₂O₃ doped TiO_2 containing both anatase and rutile phase (53% rutile and 47% anatase) as compared to one containing anatase phase alone.

Irradiation time	Benzoic acid formed (%)		
(Hrs)	With Anatase	With Rutile	With 47% anatase & 53% rutile mixture
. 0	0	0	0
2	17.8	11.4	12.3
4	22.4	13.8	14.1
6	53.4	18.6	16.3
8	87.4	22.4	26.8
10	92.4	30.4	28.6
12	98.8	30.7	28.6

Table: 8.2. The percentage conversion to benzoic acid during oxidation of toluene with 15% Fe₂O₃ doped TiO₂ containing anatasae, rutile and 47% anatase and 53% rutile phases.

The lowering of activity can be ascribed to the decrease in surface area of these samples during the phase transformation. Anatase has got better activity, as expected, due to their enhanced properties compared to rutile. The presence of rutile along with anatase also reduces the catalytic activity of Fe_2O_3 doped TiO₂. Figure 8.2 represents the variation in photochemical oxidation activity of Fe_2O_3 doped TiO₂.

Figure 8.2. Variation in benzoic acid formation with phase composition of 15% Fe₂O₃ doped TiO₂ systems.

- 1. Containing anatase 2. Containing rutile
- 3. Containing 53% rutile and 47% anatase



The toluene oxidation activity is increased on doping Fe_2O_3 . 12 hrs irradiation produced 98.8% benzoic acid in presence of Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 while in presence of undoped TiO_2 only 28.7% benzoic acid was formed at the same conditions. Hence it is clear that Fe_2O_3 doping has some enhancing effect on photo oxidation of toluene and hence Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 can be used as a catalyst for the reaction than pure TiO_2 (in anatase phase). Decrease in the catalytic activity of the system with rutilation may also be due to the changes in distribution of metal oxide on the surface of TiO_2 with the crystal transformation as well as metal titanate formation at higher temperature where rutilation occurs. So, the reaction is influenced by the phase changes occurring in the support material.

8.3. Studies on Cr₂O₃/TiO₂.

Toluene oxidation in liquid phase in photochemical pathway was carried out using 15% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ with anatase, rutile and mixture of anatase and rutile phases (72% rutile and 28% anatase). The activity studies were done after the desired phase transformation occurred. The photo oxidation activity of Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ is affected by the rutilation in TiO₂. The conversion obtained with Cr_2O_3 doped with anatase TiO₂ was 100% for 10hrs irradiation. But the conversion obtained was 33.3% when anatase phase was replaced with rutile. The benzoic acid formation with different phase compositions of TiO₂ is given in table 8.3. Benzoic acid formation was 30.8% with Cr_2O_3/TiO_2 containing both anatase and rutile phases.

		-	
	Benzoic acid formed (%)		
Irradiation time (Hrs)	With Anatase	With Rutile	With 28% anatase & 72 % rutile mixture
0	0	0	0
2	18.3	13.3	14.8
4	44.7	15.4	16.0
6	63.6	17.8	22.0
8	92.5	22.8	28.4
10	100	33.3	30.8

Table: 8.3. The percentage conversion to benzoic acid during oxidation of toluene with 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ containing anatase, rutile and 28% anatase and 72% rutile phases.

Thus change in the phase composition of TiO_2 affects the photo oxidation of toluene using Cr_2O_3 supported on TiO_2 . Figure 8.3 represent the variation in photochemical oxidation activity of Cr_2O_3 doped TiO_2 with phase transformation of TiO_2 .

Figure 8.3. Variation in benzoic acid formation with phase composition of 15% Cr₂O₃ doped TiO₂ systems.

- 1. Containing anatase 2. Containing rutile
- 3. Containing 72%rutile and 28%anatase



 Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ is also a good catalyst for the reaction compared to undoped TiO₂ since 10 hrs irradiation produced 100% conversion of toluene to benzoic acid and this system is better than Fe₂O₃ doped TiO₂. Anatase is the

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best as expected, due to its better properties compared to rutile. Also there is a drastic decrease in surface area at the completion of rutilation. Decrease in the catalytic activity may also be due to the difference in distribution of metal oxide on the surface of TiO_2 with the crystal transformation and also metal titanate formation may affect the distribution. This reaction is also influenced by the phase changes in the support material on which Cr_2O_3 is present.

8.4. Studies on NiO/TiO_{2.}

The photochemical toluene oxidation activity of 15% NiO doped TiO₂ was studied and was found that the conversion to benzoic acid is very low as compared to other catalyst systems under investigation. On irradiation for 8 hrs with NiO supported on anatase TiO₂, only 6.5% benzoic acid was formed. Different percentages of benzoic acid formed durring irradiation of aqueous suspension of toluene containing NiO doped TiO₂ with different phases are tabulated in table 8.4.

NiO supported on rutile TiO_2 for 8 hrs irradiation gave only 1.6% benzoic acid formation while NiO supported on mixture of 54% anatase and 46% rutile form converted almost the same amount at same conditions. It is clear that doping NiO with TiO₂, reduces significantly the photo oxidation activity of undoped TiO₂.

Another important observation found here is the formation of benzaldehyde during the reaction detected qualitatively (not quantitatively) by the Tollen's reaction. Hence it can be a selective catalyst system for converting toluene to benzaldehyde. However this reaction was not further followed up.

	Benzoic acid formed (%)		
Irradiation time (Hrs)	With Anatase	With Rutile	With 54% anatase & 46% rutile mixture
0	0	Nil	Nil
2	0	Nil	Nil
4	2.3	Nil	Nil
6	4.8	Nil	Nil
8	6.5	Nil	Nil
10	6.5	1.6	1.8

Table: 8.4. The percentage conversion to benzoic acid during oxidation of toluene with 15%NiO doped TiO₂ containing anatase, rutile and 54% anatase and 46% rutile phases.

Thus NiO doped TiO_2 is not a catalyst for the photochemical oxidation of toluene to benzoic acid even with anatase phase. The nominal conversion to benzoic acid may be due to the photo catalytic activity of TiO_2 .

8.5. Studies on CuO/TiO_{2.}

Using 15% CuO doped TiO₂ containing anatase phase of titania, toluene conversion to benzoic acid reached 49.6% for 8 hrs irradiation. Table 8.5 gives the different percentages of benzoic acid formed during irradiation of aqueous suspension of toluene containing CuO doped TiO₂ with different phases.

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	Benzoic acid formed (%)		
Irradiation time (Hrs)	With Anatase	With Rutile	With 50% anatase & rutile mixture
0	0	0	0
2	13.0	0	0
4	32.3	2.8	2.4
6	48.9	13.4	12.4
8	49.6	23.4	23.6
10	49.8	24.1	23.8

Table: 8.5. The percentage conversion to benzoic acid during oxidation of toluene with CuO/TiO₂ containing anatase, rutile and 50% anatase and rutile phases.

Here also the photochemical oxidation of toluene is affected by rutilation. The percentage conversion droped to 24.1% when Cuo is supported on rutile phase for 10 hrs irradiation. 49.8% benzoic acid was formed with anatase supported CuO for the same irradiation time. Figure 8.4 gives the variation in benzoic acid formation with irradiation time using different phases of TiO_2 support.

Here also the oxidation activity of the catalyst is decreased by the presence of rutile. The required properties of TiO_2 to act as a good catalyst support decreases on rutilation. The surface area of CuO doped TiO_2 decreased drastically on rutilation. Decrease in the catalytic activity of the system with rutilation may also due to the changes in distribution of metal oxide on the surface of titania, which may decrease with the crystal transformation and metal titanate formation at higher temperature where rutilation occurs. These

may be the reason for the decrease in photo oxidation activity. So, this reaction also is influenced by the phase changes occurring in the support material.

Figure 8.4. Variation in benzoic acid formation with different phase composition of CuO/TiO₂ systems.

- 1. Containing anatase 2. Containing rutile
- 3. Containing 50% anatase and rutile



8.6. Studies on MnO₂/TiO₂.

Very interesting result is obtained for the photooxidation of toluene using MnO_2 doped TiO₂. Here the anatase phase TiO₂ supported MnO_2 formed 45.5% benzoic acid from toluene for 2hrs irradiation. At 4hrs irradiation, 50.3% benzoic acid was formed. Table 8.6 gives the different percentages of benzoic acid formed during the irradiation of MnO_2 doped TiO₂ with different phases.

	Benzoic acid formed (%)		
Irradiation time (Hrs)	With Anatase	With Rutile	With 52% anatase & 48% rutile mixture
0	0	0	0
2	45.5	0	12.1
4	50.3	11.9 '	12.3
6	17.3	17.1	16.8
8	15.2	16.2	15.9
10	13.2	12.4	11.6

Table: 8.6. The percentage conversion of benzoic acid during oxidation of toluene with MnO₂/TiO₂ containing anatase, rutile and 52% anatase and 48% rutile phases.

On further increase of irradiation, the percentage of benzoic acid dropped slowly reaching 13.2% at 10 hrs. It may be due to decomposition of benzoic acid to carbon dioxide and water. Figure 8.5 gives the variation in benzoic acid percentage with time of irradiation using MnO_2 supported on different phases of TiO₂.

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Like Fe₂O₃/TiO₂, Cr₂O₃/TiO₂ and CuO/TiO₂ systems, in this system also, rutilation lowered the oxidation activity as expected but the extent of lowering is higher as compared to others. Thus the photo oxidation of toluene is affected by the phase modification in the TiO₂ support. In the case of MnO₂ doped TiO₂, prolonged irradiation resulted in the degradation since toluene layer disappeared showing the conversion of toluene but benzoic acid quantity decreased, which shows that benzoic acid is getting decomposed. The optimum time of irradiation is found to be 4 hrs where around 50% benzoic acid

conversion is obtained. Thus is is clear that the MnO_2 doped TiO₂ can act as a catalyst for the decomposition of benzoic acid and it may decompose organic pollutants.

Figure 8.5. Variation in benzoic acid formation with different phase composition of MnO₂/TiO₂ systems.

- 1. Containing anatase 2. Containing rutile
- 3. Containing both anatase and rutile



Hence it can be concluded that Cr_2O_3 and Fe_2O_3 doped TiO_2 can give 100% conversion in photo oxidation of toluene to benzoic acid as compared to undoped TiO_2 and with CuO and MnO_2 doped TiO_2 the yield of benzoic acid is less. MnO_2 doped TiO_2 on higher irradiation time makes degradation of

benzoic acid formed. NiO doped TiO_2 is not a catalyst for photo oxidation of toluene to benzoic acid. Undoped TiO_2 gives more yield of benzoic acid than NiO doped TiO_2 . Selective oxidation to benzaldehyde is detected with this system.

8.7. Mechanism of Photochemical oxidation of Toluene.

The mechanism of degradation of toluene during irradiation with transition metal oxides supported on TiO_2 is believed to be as follows.

The photo catalytic reaction starts with the exposure of aqueous suspension of toluene in presence of metaloxide supported on TiO_2 to UV light. After exposure to light two reaction starters are generated; one is electron (e⁻) and the other is positive electron holes (h⁺). One of the notable characteristics of TiO_2 is that the oxidising power of the holes is greater than the reducing power of the excited electrons. Now TiO_2 absorbe H₂O on to its surface and generates hydroxyl radicals, which have strong oxidation capacity. In this reaction TiO_2 is regenerated to original form.

 $TiO_2(h^+) + H_2O \rightarrow OH + H^+ + TiO_2.$

The decomposition of hydrogen peroxide added also produces hydroxyl radicals.

 $H_2O_2 + UV$ irradiation $\rightarrow 2 \text{ OH}^{\bullet}$

The hydroxyl radical can abstract the hydrogen from the methyl group leading to a benzyl radical.



The benzyl radical can then react with O_2 to form a benzylperoxy radical.



The benzyl peroxy radical can couple to form a tetroxide proposed by Von Sonntag and Schuchmann for oxidation in aqueous phase [251] and applied in photocatalysis by Heller et al. [252,253]



The tetroxide decomposes to benzaldehyde, benzyl alcohol and molecular oxygen (the Russel reaction) [254]









Benzaldehyde

Benzyl alcohol

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The benzyl peroxy radical can also react with a hydroperoxy radical (formed in the reaction system) to form a monoalkyl tetroxide that decomposes to benzaldehyde, molecular oxygen and water (the 'Russell-like' reaction [255])



Benzaldehyde gets oxidized easily in to benzoic acid, especially in the presence of O_2 and UV irradiation.



The brown colour of the catalyst after irradiation may be due to the adsorption of some intermediate products formed during the photo catalytic oxidation of toluene.

The difference in photo catalytic activity between TiO_2 and doped TiO_2 can be attributed to the characteristics such as the larger particle size or the lower anatase/rutile ratio of pure TiO_2 . Powders with more rutile could be less active due to the de hydroxylation caused by the anatase to rutile phase transformation since hydroxylation reduces hole trapping by surface hydroxyls, enhancing recombination and oxygen or organic species adsorption. A decrease in specific surface area can also affect the photo activity.

Dopents can affect the photo activity of TiO_2 by changing the number of active sites, surface groups and the acid-base properties. The different behaviour of the various samples is also related to the solubility of the transition metal oxide in the TiO_2 support, which depends strongly on the radius and the charge of the corresponding ion.[256] Sha Jin et al. have reported that photo catalytic activities enhanced for decompositions of organic compounds over metal-photo deposited titanium dioxide and that the photo catalytic activities of the metal-deposited TiO_2 were superior to that of the TiO_2 film and were highly stable.[257] The present study also confirms that metal oxide dispersed TiO_2 is better catalyst than pure TiO_2 . The reasons for the enhanced activity and efficiency may be due to various factors like change in the number of active sites, surface groups, acid base properties, solubility of metal oxide in TiO_2 etc.

8.8. Conclusions

The following conclusions can be made from the studies on the photo oxidation of toluene with metal oxides supported on TiO_2 .

- Fe₂O₃ and Cr₂O₃ supported on TiO₂ produced more yield of benzoic acid from toluene during irradiation.
- > The yield of benzoic acid is less with CuO doped TiO_2 .
- > MnO₂ doped TiO₂ is acting as a catalyst for the decomposition of benzoic acid at higher irradiation time.
- > NiO supported on TiO₂ is not a catalyst for photooxidation of toluene.
- Selective oxidation of toluene to benzaldehyde is observed in NiO supported on TiO₂.

- Severe decrease in photo oxidation activity was observed with rutilation.
- > Order of photo oxidation activity for toluene: anatase > rutile ≅ mixture of anatase & rutile.
- > The photo catalytic activity decreases in the order

 Cr_2O_3 doped $TiO_2 > Fe_2O_3$ doped $TiO_2 > CuO$ doped $TiO_2 >$ Undoped $TiO_2 > MnO_2$ doped $TiO_2 > NiO$ doped TiO_2 .

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

CHAPTER 9 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

 TiO_2 supported catalysis is an emerging field and the development of new and better methods for their preparation is the need of the hour. As the stable dioxide, TiO_2 exists in three polymorphs, corresponding to the naturally occurring mineral anatase, rutile and brookite. Titania exhibits transformation from one crystal structure to another as the temperature or pressure is varied. This phenomenon is known as polymorphism. The structural differences between anatase and rutile make the transformation irreversible.

The phase in which TiO₂ exists in the selected conditions is important for selecting TiO_2 as a catalyst or catalyst support. Also the properties of the titania are determined by the phase composition and the particle size of each phase. The phase composition and the particle size evolve as functions of time and temperarture during heat treatment. The anatase to rutile transformation involves an over all contraction of the structure and a movement of ions, so that a co-operative rearrangement of Ti^{4+} and O^{2-} ions occurs. To say more specifically, two of the six Ti - O bonds of anatase break and re-unite in a slightly distorted manner, to form rutile structure. It has been proposed that [54-56] the removal of oxygen ions, which generates lattice vacancies, accelerates the transformation and hence, the cations, having the valency less than four, which correspondingly increase the oxygen vacancy, would enhance the transformation [54]. Because of its irreversible nature, there is no phase equilibria involved in this transformation and hence, does not have any specific transition temperature [51]. Hence it becomes necessary to find out the exact temperature at which phase transformation takes place in presence of various transition metal oxides for its application as catalysts in safe temperature ranges.

The present investigations were done using the uncalcined hydrated titanium hydroxide (titania pulp-amorphous material) containing 82% TiO₂. produced by the Travancore Titanium Products Ltd., Trivandrum, Kerala, India.

Quantitative analysis of the transformation kinetics of anatase to rutile was studied in presence of 5 and 15% Fe_2O_3 , NiO, Cr_2O_3 , CuO and MnO₂ which were prepared through two different methods and heated in air, inert (argon) and reducing atmosphere (hydrogen). Photo catalytic oxidation of toluene to benzoic acid was also carried out using all the five systems with different phase contents of titania.

Crystallization temperature of anatase from amorphous titania pulp decreased in presence of Fe₂O₃, Cr₂O₃, NiO, CuO and MnO₂. Hence these metal oxides have a strong influence on the crystallization temperature. Rutilation started at different temperatures depending on the metal oxide and the method of preparation. Co-precipitated ones got rutilated at lower temperatures compared to wet-impregnated samples. In most of the cases, the onset temperatures of rutilation were lower in presence of the metal oxides used in this study, compared to pure TiO₂. Table 9.1 represents the onset temperature of rutilation in presence of different transition metal oxides in presence of air. Pure TiO₂ prepared from titania pulp has an anatase to rutile transition temperature of 900 – 1000^{0} C.

All these metal oxides were present in a very fine nature at lower temperatures and during heating metal oxides reacted with TiO₂ to form

corresponding titanates as seen in XRD patterns. The temperature of formation is a characteristic of the particular titanate.

Method of preparation	Nature and amount of	1	
	metal oxide doped	of rutilation (⁰ C)	
	5% Fe ₂ O ₃	700	
	15% Fe ₂ O ₃	700	
	5% NiO	700	
	15% NiO	700	
	5% Cr ₂ O ₃	800	
Co-precipitation	15% Cr ₂ O ₃	600	
	5% CuO	750	
	15% CuO	700	
	5% MnO ₂	650	
	15% MnO ₂	650	
Wet-impregnation	5% Fe ₂ O ₃	800	
	15% Fe ₂ O ₃	800	
	5% NiO	850	
	15% NiO	850	
	5% Cr ₂ O ₃	900	
	15% Cr ₂ O ₃	900	
	5% CuO	750	
	15% CuO	750	
	5% MnO ₂	800	
	15% MnO ₂	800	

Table 9.1.Onset temperature of rutilation in presence of different transitionmetal oxides doped TiO2 prepared through different methods.

Out of all these samples, the onset temperature of rutilation was very low for MnO_2 loaded and 15% Cr_2O_3 doped TiO₂ sample prepared by co-

precipitation. The activation energy for the transformation was found to be lowered much on doping TiO_2 with metal oxides in comparison with pure TiO_2 where the activation energy is 90 kcal/mol.

In argon atmosphere the anatase to rutile transformation temperature was decreased more than that in air and in hydrogen atmosphere, the transformation takes place more rapidly than that in air. In all these cases more rutilation was found in co-precipitated samples compared to wet-impregnated. Also the amount of metal oxide is more important in deciding rutilation.

Better surface area, was obtained with co-precipitated samples compared to wet-impregnated ones. On loading metal oxides like Fe_2O_3 , NiO, Cr_2O_3 , CuO and MnO₂, the surface area decreased in all the samples. Method of preparation and percentage of the loaded metal oxides have greater influence on surface area. Drastic decrease in surface area was observed upon rutilation.

The surface morphology of TiO₂ changes on heating in presence of metal oxides and also the nature of metal oxides is very important in deciding the morphology. As expected, because of better properties, the anatase form of metal oxide doped TiO₂ showed higher activity for photo oxidation of toluene. All these catalysts are yet to be reported for this reaction. The percentage conversion of toluene to benzoic acid decreased drastically upon rutilation. In NiO/TiO₂ samples, the activity is low for anatase form it self and only partial oxidation to benzaldehyde was observed.

With all these findings, it can be concluded that, TiO_2 as a support should be characterized with high surface area, phase purity and high onset temperature of rutilation, which should be well above the optimum temperature of a designated reaction in which it is employed as a catalyst. Variation in physical properties, depending upon the method of preparation is greater in TiO_2 supported catalysts. Hence, a detailed investigation of properties of the samples prepared through each method is necessary and appropriate. A thorough awareness about the rutilation temperature of the catalyst is also a must, before exploiting titania supported catalysts industrially.

Suggestions for future work

The anatase to rutile transformation in presence of lower percentages (< 1) is also to be studied. The toluene oxidation through photo chemical path using these metal oxides doped TiO_2 are also equally important, from an industrial point of view. It can be done by setting up a continuous process. However the investigations made here are necessary for developing the catalysts for industrial purpose. Various other industrially important reactions can also be tried over these catalysts after knowing the effect of rutilation on those reactions.

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