

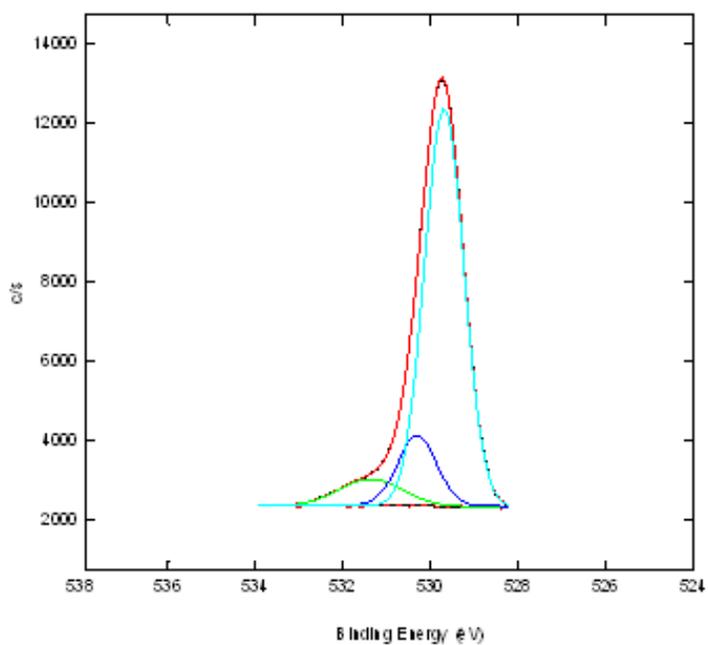
# **A Simple Route to Enhanced Photocatalytic Activity of P25 Titanium Dioxide Nanoparticles By Silica Addition**

HUMA R. JAFRY,<sup>†,¶,\$</sup> MICHAEL V. LIGA,<sup>‡,¶,\$</sup> QILIN LI,<sup>\*,‡,¶,\$</sup> AND  
ANDREW R. BARRON<sup>\*,†,¶,\$,§, β</sup>

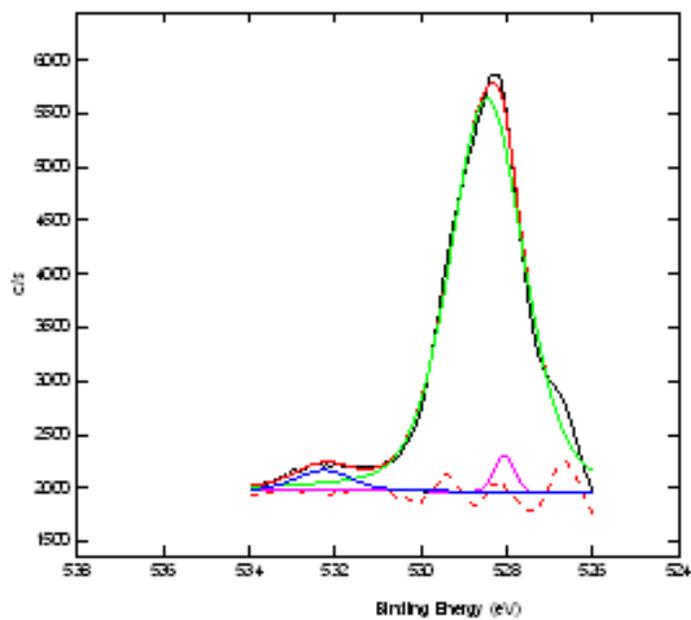
*Departments of Chemistry, Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, the Richard E. Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology, and the Center for Biological and Environmental Nanotechnology, Rice University, Houston, Texas 77005, USA.*

*Institute of Life Science, Swansea University, Singleton Park, Swansea SA2 8PP, Wales UK.*

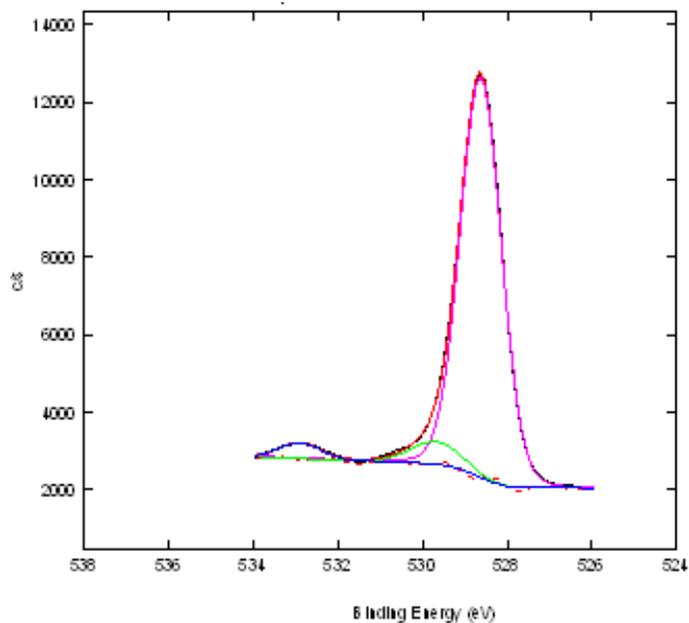
**Supporting Information**



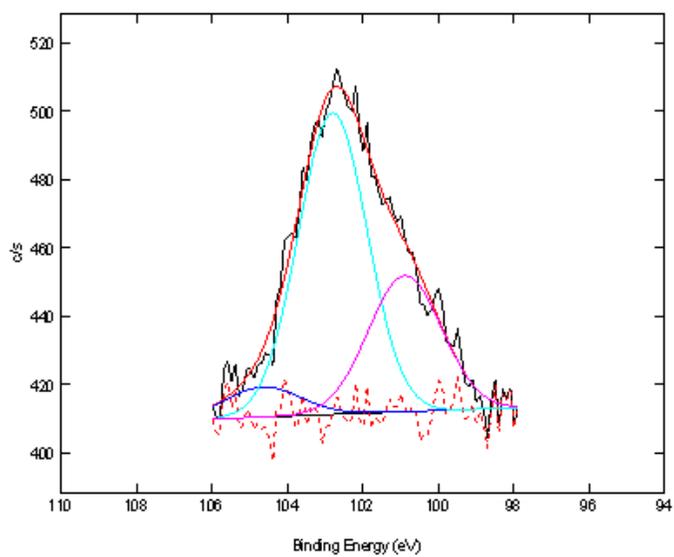
**Figure S1.** O1s X-ray photoelectron spectra for TiO<sub>2</sub>(P25).



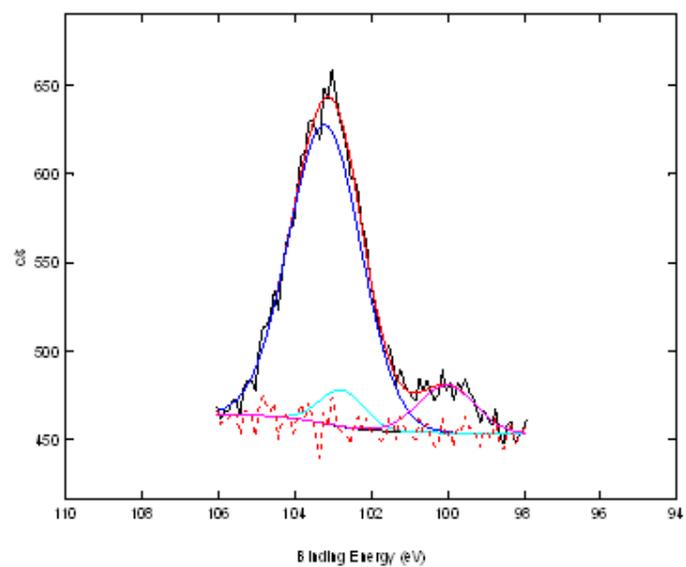
**Figure S2.** O1s X-ray photoelectron spectra for TiO<sub>2</sub>(P25)-SiO<sub>2</sub> formed by refluxing.



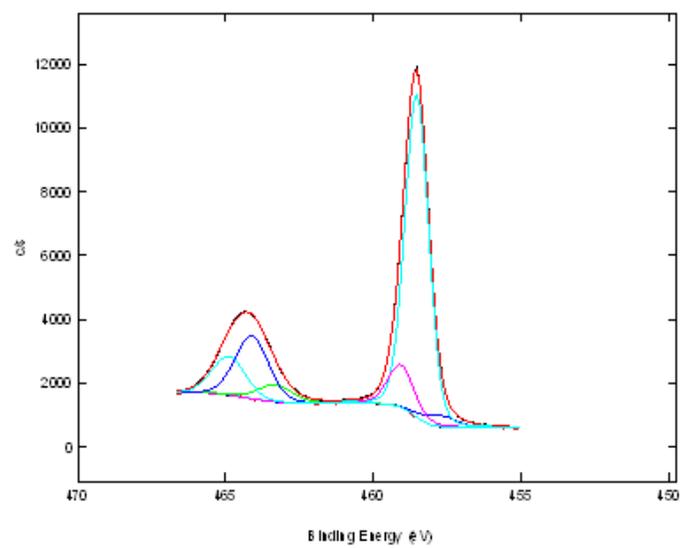
**Figure S3.** O1s X-ray photoelectron spectra for  $\text{TiO}_2(\text{P25})\text{-SiO}_2$  formed by stirring.



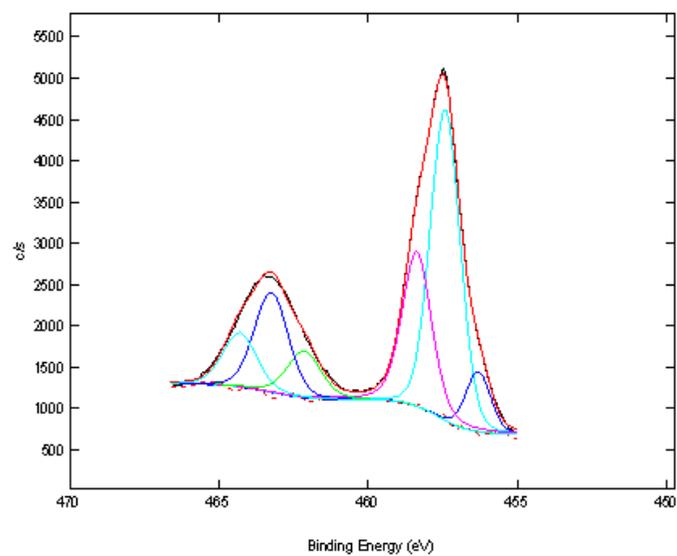
**Figure S4.** Si2p X-ray photoelectron spectra for  $\text{TiO}_2(\text{P25})\text{-SiO}_2$  formed by refluxing.



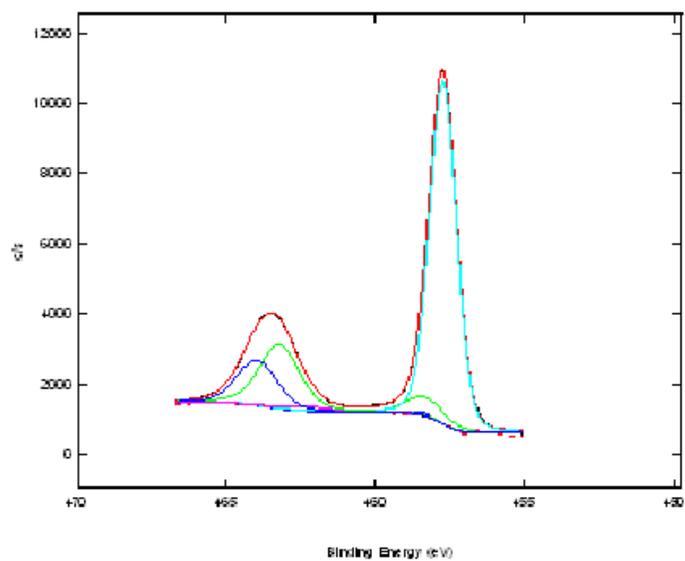
**Figure S5.** Si2p X-ray photoelectron spectra for TiO<sub>2</sub>(P25)-SiO<sub>2</sub> formed by stirring.



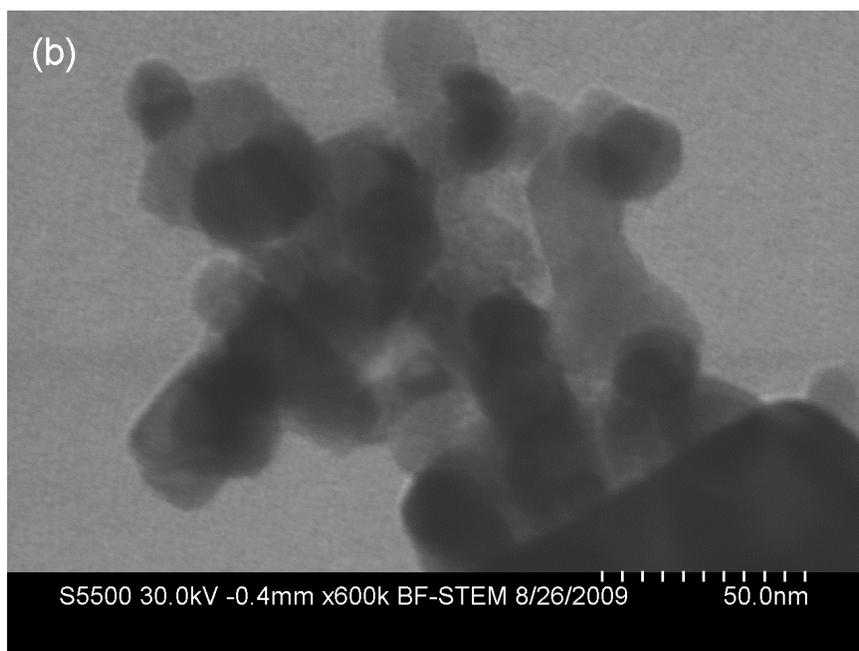
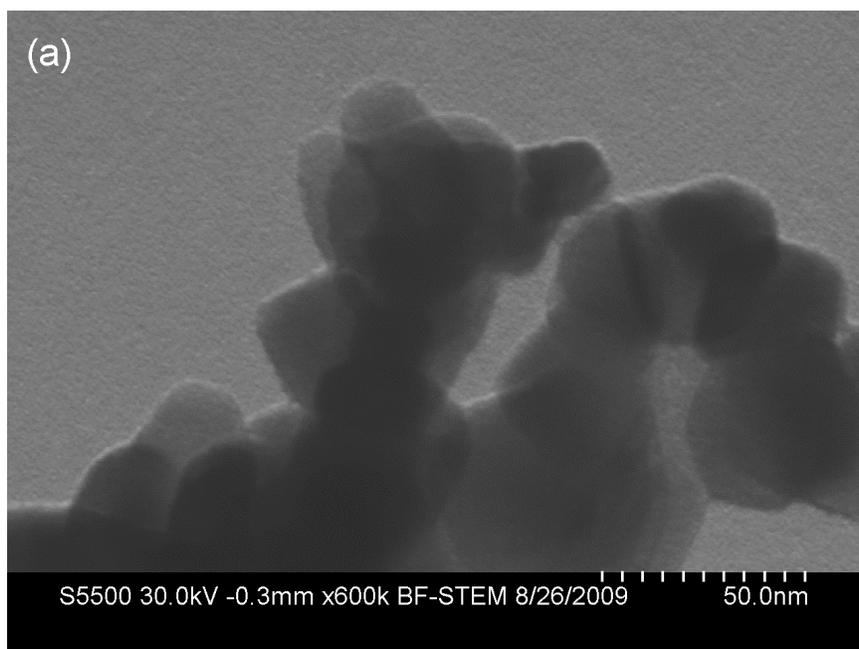
**Figure S6.** Ti2p X-ray photoelectron spectra for TiO<sub>2</sub>(P25).



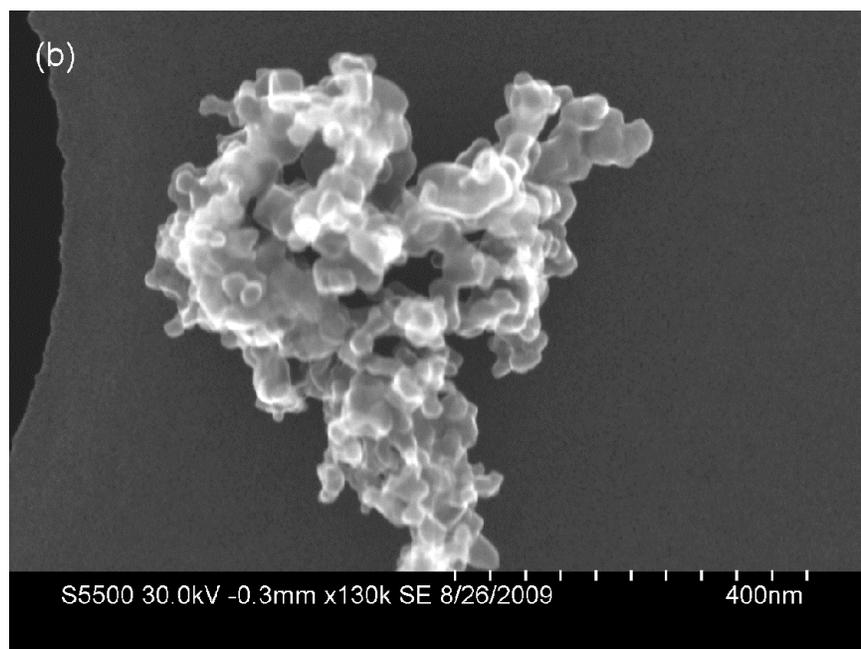
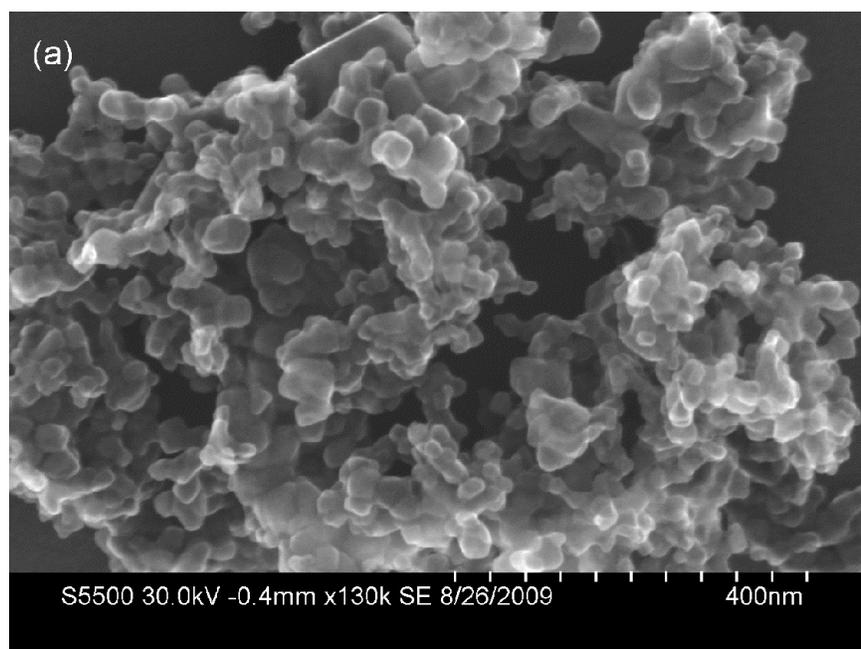
**Figure S7.** Ti<sub>2</sub>p X-ray photoelectron spectra for TiO<sub>2</sub>(P25)-SiO<sub>2</sub> formed by refluxing.



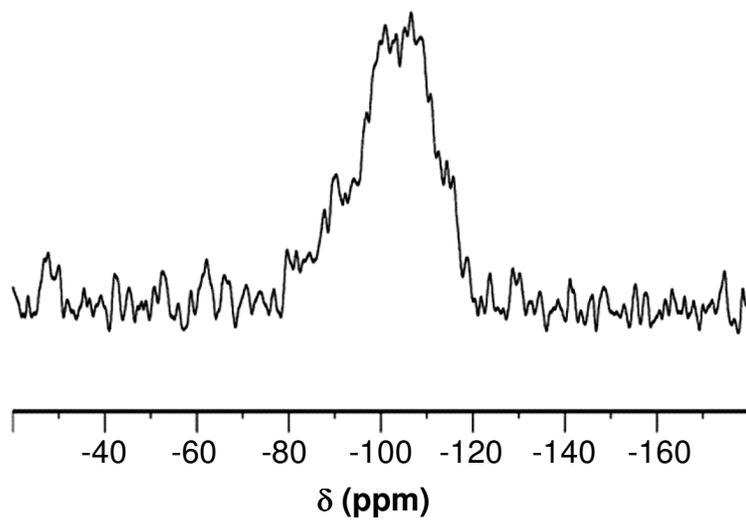
**Figure S8.** Ti<sub>2</sub>p X-ray photoelectron spectra for TiO<sub>2</sub>(P25)-SiO<sub>2</sub> formed by stirring.



**Figure S9.** TEM of  $\text{TiO}_2(\text{P25})$  reacted with fumed silica with (a) stirring in comparison with (b) as-received P25  $\text{TiO}_2$ .



**Figure S10.** SEM of  $\text{TiO}_2(\text{P25})$  reacted with fumed silica with (a) stirring in comparison with (b) as-received P25  $\text{TiO}_2$ .



**Figure S11.**  $^{29}\text{Si}$  MAS NMR of  $\text{TiO}_2(\text{P25})\text{-SiO}_2(5\%)$  showing the presence of “ $\text{SiO}_4$ ” coordination environment.

**Table S1.** Summary of peak fitted XP spectra.

Sample	O1s	Ti2p <sub>1/2</sub>	Si2p
TiO <sub>2</sub> (P25)	529.70 (Ti-O-Ti) 530.31 (Ti-O-Ti) 531.38 (Ti-O-Ti)	463.3 (Ti <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) 464.11 (TiO <sub>2</sub> ) 464.8 (TiO <sub>2</sub> )	-
TiO <sub>2</sub> (P25)-SiO <sub>2</sub> formed by refluxing	528.07 (Ti-O-Ti) 528.47 (Ti-O-Ti) 532.28 (Si-O-Ti)	462.14 (Ti <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) 463.23 (Ti <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) 464.29 (TiO <sub>2</sub> or Ti-O-Si)	100.88 (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) 102.80 (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) 104.64 (Si-O-Ti)
TiO <sub>2</sub> (P25)-SiO <sub>2</sub> formed by stirring	528.62 (Ti-O-Ti) 528.69 (Ti-O-Ti) 532.88 (Si-O-Ti)	462.25 (Ti <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) 463.20 (Ti <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ) 463.95 (TiO <sub>2</sub> or Ti-O-Si)	100.02 (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) 102.77 (SiO <sub>2</sub> ) 103.21 (Si-O-Si)