Electronic Supplementary Information

Synthesis of String-Bean-like Anisotropic Titania Nanoparticles with Basic Amino Acids

Junzheng Wang,†,‡ John K. Katahara, †,‡ Akihito Kumamoto,§ Tetsuya Tohei,§ Ayae Sugawara-Narutaki,† Atsushi Shimojima,†,† and Tatsuya Okubo*†

†Department of Chemical System Engineering, The University of Tokyo, 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8656, Japan
§Institute of Engineering Innovation, The University of Tokyo, 2-11-16 Yayoi, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8656, Japan
*Corresponding Author: okubo@chemsys.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp.

Present Address

†International Center for Materials Nanoarchitectonics (MANA), National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS), Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-0044, Japan.
‡Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195, United States.
‖Department of Applied Chemistry, Waseda University, 3-4-1 Ohkubo, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169-8555, Japan.
Experimental Section

Materials. Titanium isopropoxide, titanium tetraethoxide, titanium tetrabutoxide, sodium hydroxide (50 wt% NaOH in water), nitric acid, triethanolamine, arginine, and lysine were purchased from Wako Pure Chemical Industries Ltd. All chemicals were used as received without any further purification. Milli-Q water (18.2 MΩ) was used for all experiments.

Characterization. SEM images were taken on a Hitachi S-900 instrument with an accelerating voltage of 6 kV. Samples were prepared by spin-coating of the colloidal nanoparticles onto silicon wafers. Before observation, a layer of Pt was deposited on the SEM samples by sputtering with a Hitachi E-1030 instrument for 10s. TEM images were obtained with a JEOL JEM-2800 transmission electron microscope at an accelerating voltage of 200 kV. Nitrogen adsorption and desorption isotherms were obtained at 77 K using Autosorb-iQ (Quantachrome Instruments). Before measurements, samples were degassed at 300 °C for 8 h. The Brunauer–Emmett–Teller (BET) specific surface areas of samples were calculated from adsorption data at a relative pressure range of 0.05–0.2. The total pore volumes were evaluated from the adsorbed amount of nitrogen at a relative pressure of 0.99. The pore size distributions were obtained with the adsorption branches of the isotherms by the Barrett–Joyner–Halenda (BJH) method.
Fig. S1

Pore characteristics of string-bean-like anisotropic TiO$_2$ nanoparticles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BET surface area (m$^2$ / g)</th>
<th>BJH pore size (nm)</th>
<th>Total pore volume (cc / g)</th>
<th>Porosity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>116.8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0.38</td>
<td>61.6%</td>
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</table>
**Fig. S2**

SEM images of TiO$_2$ nanoparticles synthesized at 150 °C and varied concentrations of arginine: (A) 0, (B) 1, and (C) 5 wt%.
**Fig. S3**

SEM images of unpeptized string-bean-like TiO$_2$ nanoparticles synthesized at 150 °C with 10 wt% of arginine and different precursors: (A) titanium tetraethoxide and (B) titanium tetrabutoxide.
Fig. S4

SEM images of string-bean-like TiO$_2$ nanoparticles synthesized at 150 °C with lysine.
Fig. S5

SEM images of TiO$_2$ nanoparticles synthesized at 190 °C and varied concentrations of arginine: (A) 1, (B) 5, and (C) 10 wt%.
Fig. S6
Photographs of aqueous arginine solutions (10 wt%) after treatment at different temperature for 24 h: (A) room temperature, (B) 150 °C, and (C) 190 °C.