

Supporting Information

Reduced recombination with optimized barrier layer on TiO₂ in PbS/CdS core shell quantum dot sensitized solar cells

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S1. Cross-Sectional view of SEM image

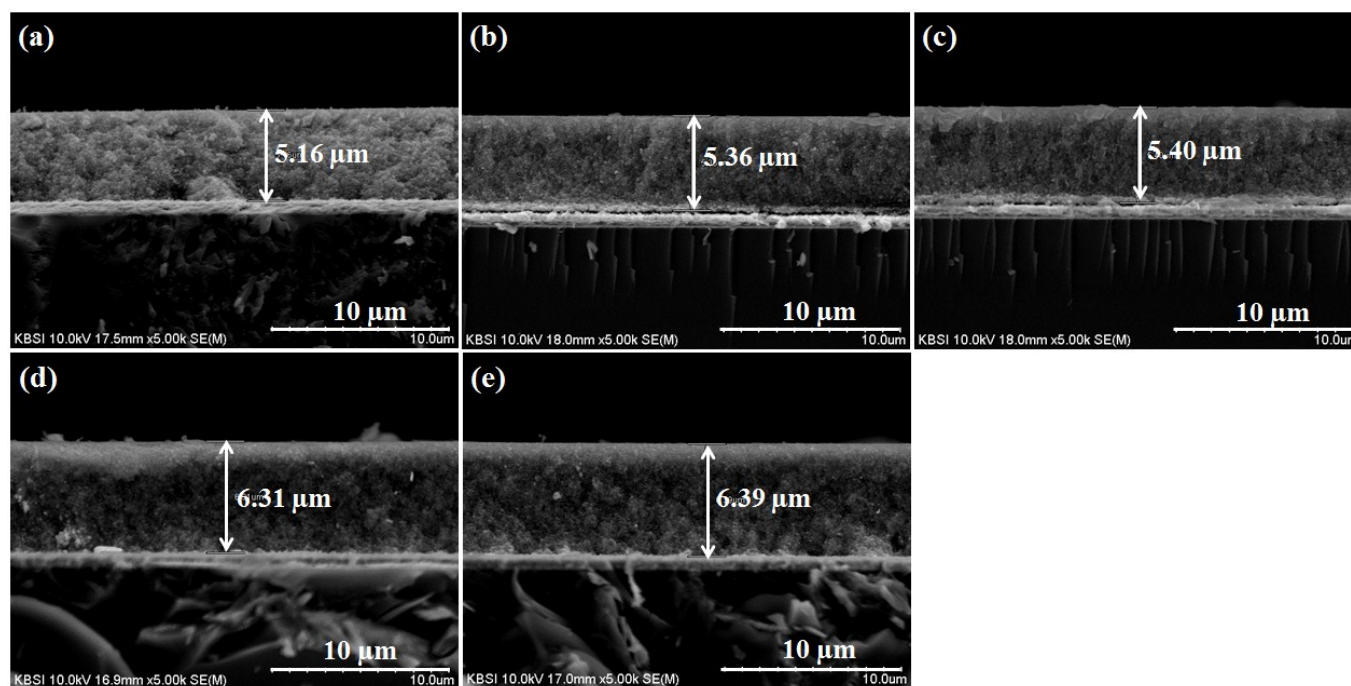


Fig. S1 Cross-sectional view of SEM of (a) TiO₂, (b) TiO₂/MgO, (c) TiO₂/Al₂O₃, (d) TiO₂/MgO/Al₂O₃ and (e) TiO₂/Al₂O₃/MgO electrodes

S2. EDX Analysis

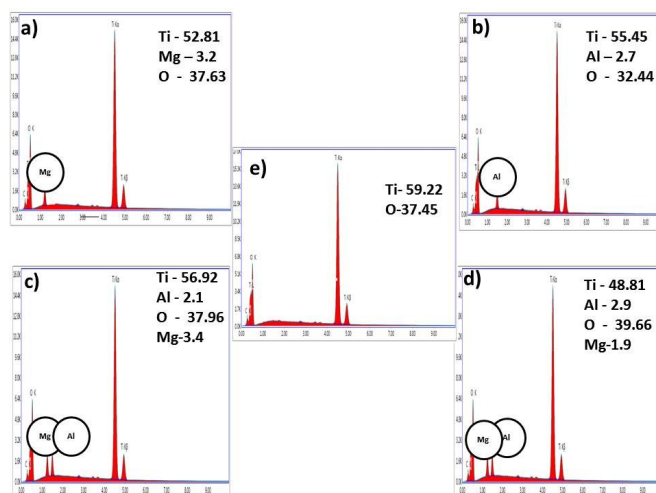


Fig. S2 EDX analysis of a) TiO_2/MgO b) $\text{TiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ c) $\text{TiO}_2/\text{MgO}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ d) $\text{TiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MgO}$ e) Bare TiO_2

S3. AFM (Atomic Force Microscopy) analysis of PbS/CdS

The smoothest film with a root-mean square (RMS) roughness value of 10.83 nm was due to the PbS/CdS electrode. The power conversion efficiency of solar cells mainly depends on the low roughness of the surface. A reduction in the surface roughness of PbS/CdS tends to improve the conversion efficiency of the QDSSCs, which affects the optical properties.¹

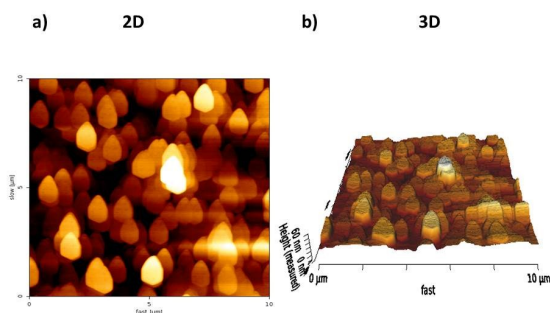


Fig. S3 2D (a and b) and 3D AFM images of PbS/CdS sensitized electrodes on the surface of TiO_2

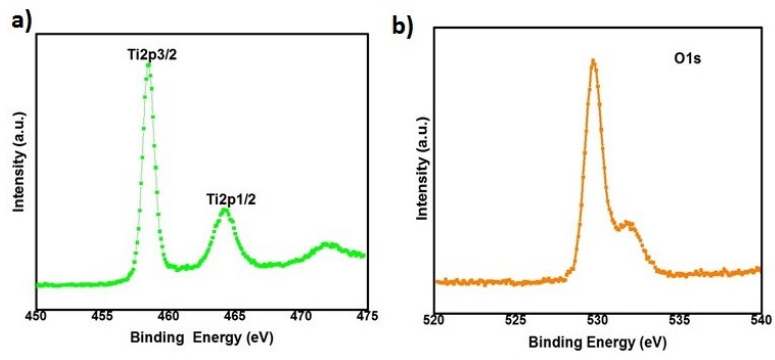


Fig. S4 XPS spectra of a) Ti (b) O