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Electronic Supplementary Material

## The role of adsorbed oxygen in formic acid oxidation by Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> facilitated by light pre-treatment

Wibawa H. Saputera<sup>a</sup>, Jason Scott<sup>a</sup>\*, Nathania Ganda<sup>a</sup>, Gary K-C. Low<sup>a</sup>, Rose Amal<sup>a</sup>\*

<sup>a</sup> Particles and Catalysis Research Group, School of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of New South Wales, Australia

\* Correspondence should be addressed to Jason Scott and Rose Amal

Address: Tyree Energy Technology Building 348, University of New South Wales, Kensington, NSW 2052, Australia

E-mail: jason.scott@unsw.edu.au	E-mail: <u>r.amal@unsw.edu.au</u>			
Fax.: +61293855966	Fax.: +61293855966			
Tel.: +61293857361	Tel.: +61293854361			



Fig. S1 TEM image of  $Pt_{ox}/TiO_2$ . No visible  $Pt_{ox}$  deposits are observable.



**Fig. S2** Effect of Pt oxidation states on the formic acid oxidation rate ( $R_{50}$ ) by Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> prior to and following light pre-treatment. Pt<sub>ox</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub> represents Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> which has been calcined at 300°C. Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> represents Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub> which has been hydrogenated at 500°C. Neat TiO<sub>2</sub> is included as a control. Formic acid oxidation conditions: catalyst loading = 1 g/L; initial formic acid loading = 100 µmole; suspension pH = 3 ± 0.05; air equilibration time = 10 minutes; relaxation time = 10 minutes; no illumination was performed during reaction.



**Fig. S3** Effect of initial formic acid loading on dissolved oxygen consumed during formic acid oxidation by  $Pt/TiO_2$  following UV light pre-treatment. Formic acid oxidation conditions: catalyst loading = 1 g/L; suspension pH =  $3 \pm 0.05$ ; air equilibration time = 10 minutes; relaxation time = 10 minutes; no illumination was performed during reaction.



**Fig. S4** Deconvolution of (a) Pt4f and (b) O1s core levels for  $Pt/TiO_2$  with different dissolved oxygen concentrations prior to formic acid injection. Peak shifts to a lower binding energy were observed for the oxygen rich condition while peak shifts to a higher binding energy were observed for the nitrogen rich condition (when compared to the as-prepared  $Pt/TiO_2$ ).

Pt/TiO₂ treatment	Pt4f core level (%)			O1s core level (%)		
	Pt <sup>0</sup>	$PtO_{ads}$	Pt <sub>ox</sub>	0 <sup>2-</sup>	$\mathbf{O}_{ads}^{-}$	$H_2O_{ads}$
No light pre-treatment	65.2	21.7	13.1	82.2	8.9	8.9
30 min light pre-treatment ( <b>P-R</b> )	61.7	28.6	9.7	77.9	14.6	7.5
30 min light pre-treatment with N <sub>2</sub> bubbling during light pre-treatment and relaxation stages ( <b>P-N<sub>2</sub>-R-N<sub>2</sub></b> )	54.2	25	20.8	83.4	6.8	9.8
30 min light pre-treatment with N <sub>2</sub> bubbling during relaxation stage ( <b>P-R-N<sub>2</sub></b> )	56.7	27.3	16	82.5	8.5	9
30 min light pre-treatment with N <sub>2</sub> bubbling during light pre-treatment stage and air bubbling during relaxation stage ( <b>P-N<sub>2</sub>-R-Air</b> )	58.4	28	13.6	79.6	9.7	10.7
30 min light pre-treatment with air bubbling during light pre-treatment and relaxation stages ( <b>P-Air-R-Air</b> )	52.2	34.8	13	75.8	16	8.2

**Table S1** Effect of air or  $N_2$  purging at various stages of the light pre-treatment-relaxation process on Pt and O speciation for Pt/TiO<sub>2</sub>.