

Near ambient pressure XPS study of Au oxidation.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION.

Table S1:

| | bulk | | surface | | restructuring | | oxide | |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | BE (eV) | FWHM (eV) | BE (eV) | FWHM (eV) | BE (eV) | FWHM (eV) | BE (eV) | FWHM (eV) |
| Before O ₃ | 83.92 | 0.486 | 83.60 | 0.415 | - | - | - | - |
| During O ₃ | 83.92 | 0.486 | 83.59 | 0.415 | 83.29 | 0.499 | 85.22 | 1.105 |
| After O ₃ | 83.92 | 0.486 | 83.60 | 0.415 | 83.29 | 0.500 | - | - |

Depth profile quantification

The gold oxide thickness can be estimated by quantification of depth profile. For calculation we use the equation for semi-infinite specimen, with uniform over-layer of thickness t_A ³⁰. Suffixes S (support, Au⁰) and A (active over-layer, Au^{δ+}) are used to specify the nature of the atomic species. Over-layer/substrate ratio:

$$\frac{N_A}{N_S} = \frac{F_A r_A \sigma_A / \rho_A}{F_S r_S \sigma_S / \rho_S} \cdot \frac{[1 - \exp(-t_A / \lambda_A \sin \theta)]}{\exp(-t_A / \lambda_S \sin \theta)}, \quad (S1)$$

where F , dependent on the emitted electron energy, includes several instrumental parameters; ρ , the atomic density; σ , the differential cross-section; λ , IMPF; where θ is the emission direction

angle with respect to the surface normal.. Equation S1 applies to several situations, including growth on metal³¹.

In our calculation we use the following parameters: $F_{Au^0} = F_{Au^{+\delta}}$; $\lambda_{Au^0} = \lambda_{Au^{+\delta}}$; $\sigma_{Au^0} = \sigma_{Au^{+\delta}}$; $\rho_{Au^0} = 5.9 * 10^{22}$ atom/mol; $\rho_{Au^{+\delta}} = 3.09 * 10^{22}$ atom/mol ; $\theta = 90^\circ$, that leads to the Au oxide thickness of 0.29 nm.