# TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanocluster Modified-Rutile TiO<sub>2</sub> Photocatalyst: a First Principles Investigation.

Anna Iwaszuk<sup>a</sup>, P. A. Mulheran<sup>b</sup> and Michael Nolan<sup>a</sup>\*

a: Tyndall National Institute, University College Cork, Lee Maltings, Prospect Row, Cork,

Ireland

b: Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G1 1XQ, Scotland, UK

# Supporting information:

### The Supporting Information consists of

**1. Figure S1:** Relaxed, but less stable, adsorption structures for  $Ti_6O_{12}$  nanocluster on rutile (110) surface

**2. Figure S2:** Relaxed, less stable, adsorption structures for  $Ti_8O_{16}$ ,  $Ti_{16}O_{32}$ ,  $Ti_{30}O_{60}$  clusters on rutile (110).

3. Details of calculation of energetics in cluster aggregation

**4. Figure S3:** PEDOS of O 2p states in the adsorbed nanocluster for terminal oxygen (denoted O 2p terminal) and non-terminal oxygen (denoted O 2p non-term) for: (a) $Ti_5O_{10}$ , (b) $Ti_6O_{12}$ , (c) $Ti_{16}O_{32}$ , (d) $Ti_{30}O_{60}$  clusters on  $TiO_2$  rutile (110) surface.

**5. Figure S4:** Absorption spectrum of nanocluster modified rutile (110) showing a zoom into the region around the photon energy corresponding to the extrapolated absorption energy.



Figure S1 Relaxed adsorption structures with adsorption energies given in eV for different configurations of  $Ti_6O_{12}$  clusters on  $TiO_2$  rutile (110).



Figure S2 Relaxed adsorption structures with adsorption energies given in eV for (a)Ti<sub>8</sub>O<sub>16</sub>, (b)Ti<sub>16</sub>O<sub>32</sub>, (c)Ti<sub>30</sub>O<sub>60</sub> clusters on TiO<sub>2</sub> rutile (110).

### Calculations on energetics in nanocluster aggregation

1. Free Nanoclusters

### Formation of Ti8O16 from 2x Ti4O8:

E(Ti8O16) = -168.443 eV

E(2xTi4O8) = -161.232 eV

### Formation of Ti16O32 from 2x Ti8O16

E(Ti16O32) = -344.417 eV

E(2x Ti8O16) = -336.886 eV

### Formation of Ti30O60 from Ti6O12+Ti8O16+Ti16O32

E(Ti30O60) = -647.250 eV

E(Ti6O12 + Ti8O16 + Ti16O32) = -635.088 eV

2. Aggregation of Nanoclusters Supported on TiO2

#### Formation of Ti6O12 compared to two Ti3O6 clusters on the same rutile (110) (2x4) surface

 $E\{2(Ti3O6)\text{-rutile (110)}\} = -4482.857 \text{ eV}$ 

 $E{Ti6O12-rutile (110)} + E{rutile (110)} = -4477.507 eV$ 

## Formation of Ti16O32 compared to two Ti8O16 clusters on the same rutile (110) (4x4) surface

 $E{2(Ti8O16)-rutile (110)} = -6135.125 \text{ eV}$ 

 $E{Ti16O32-rutile (110)} + E{rutile(110)} = -6134.395 \text{ eV}$ 





Figure S3: Electronic density of states projected (PEDOS) on O 2p states with terminal oxygen (denoted O 2p terminal) and non-terminal oxygen (denoted O 2p non-term) for: (a) $Ti_5O_{10}$ , (b) $Ti_6O_{12}$ , (c) $Ti_{16}O_{32}$ , (d) $Ti_{30}O_{60}$  clusters on TiO<sub>2</sub> rutile (110) surface.



Figure S4: Absorption spectrum of nanocluster modified rutile (110) showing a zoom into the region around the photon energy corresponding to the extrapolated absorption energy.