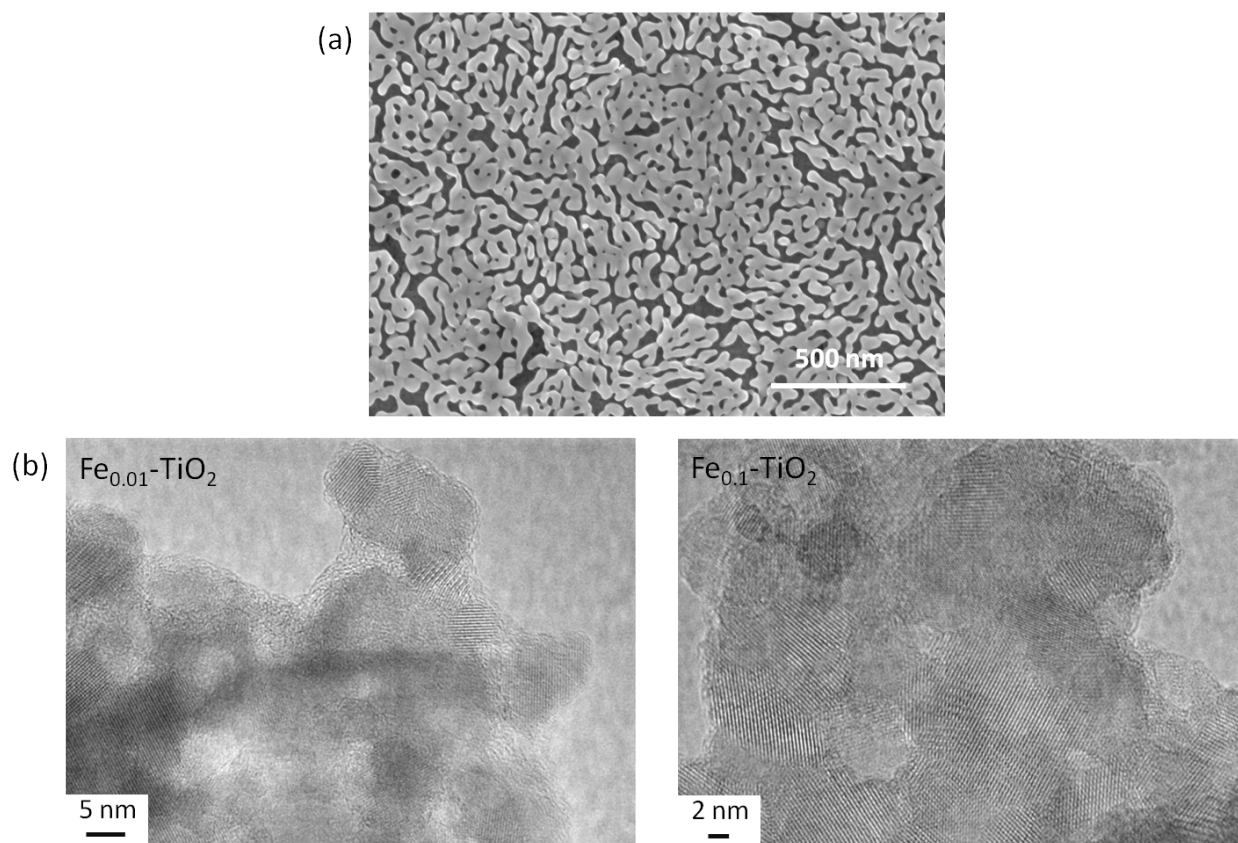
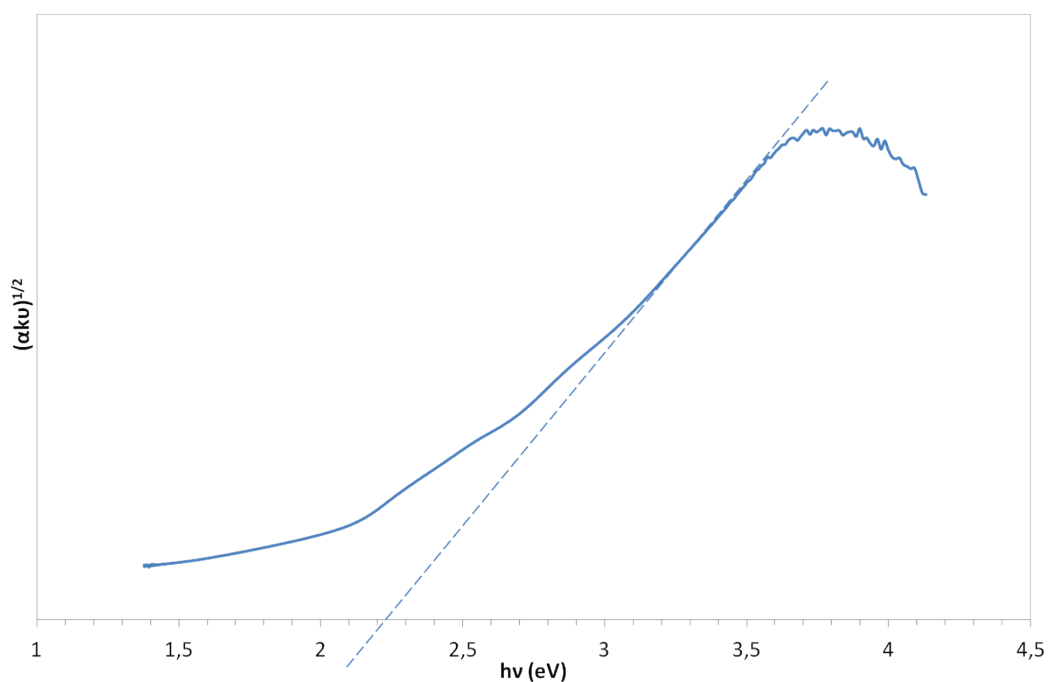


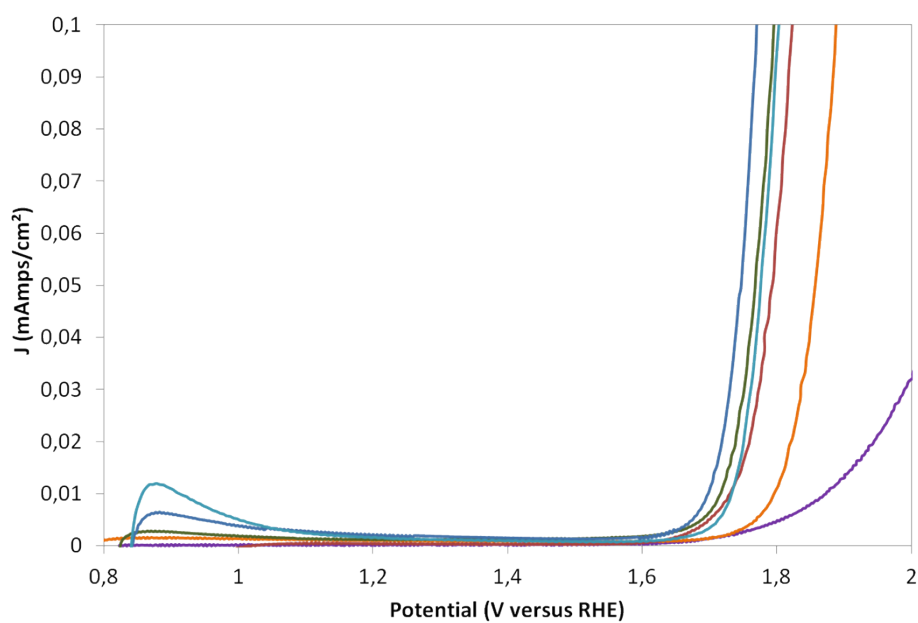
**Supporting Information.**



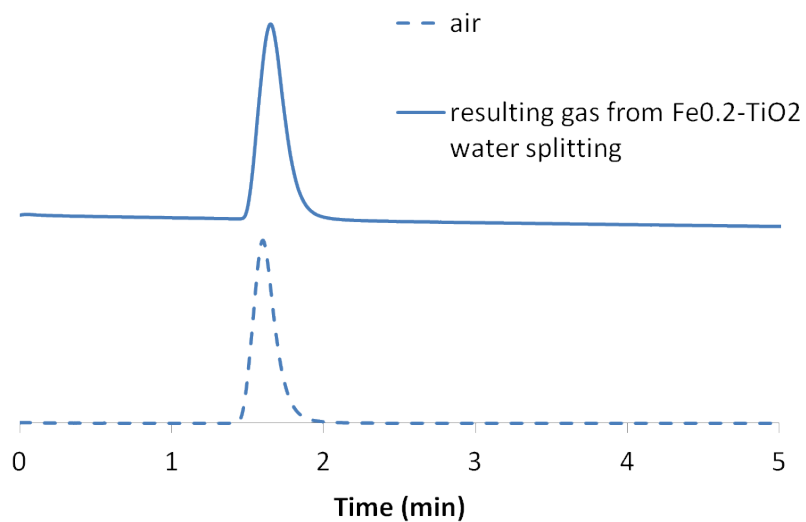
**Figure S1.** a. FE-SEM of  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  films heated at 600°C under air for 15 min. b. HR-TEM of  $\text{Fe}_{0.01}\text{-TiO}_2$  and  $\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{-TiO}_2$  mesoporous films heated at 500°C under air for 15 min.



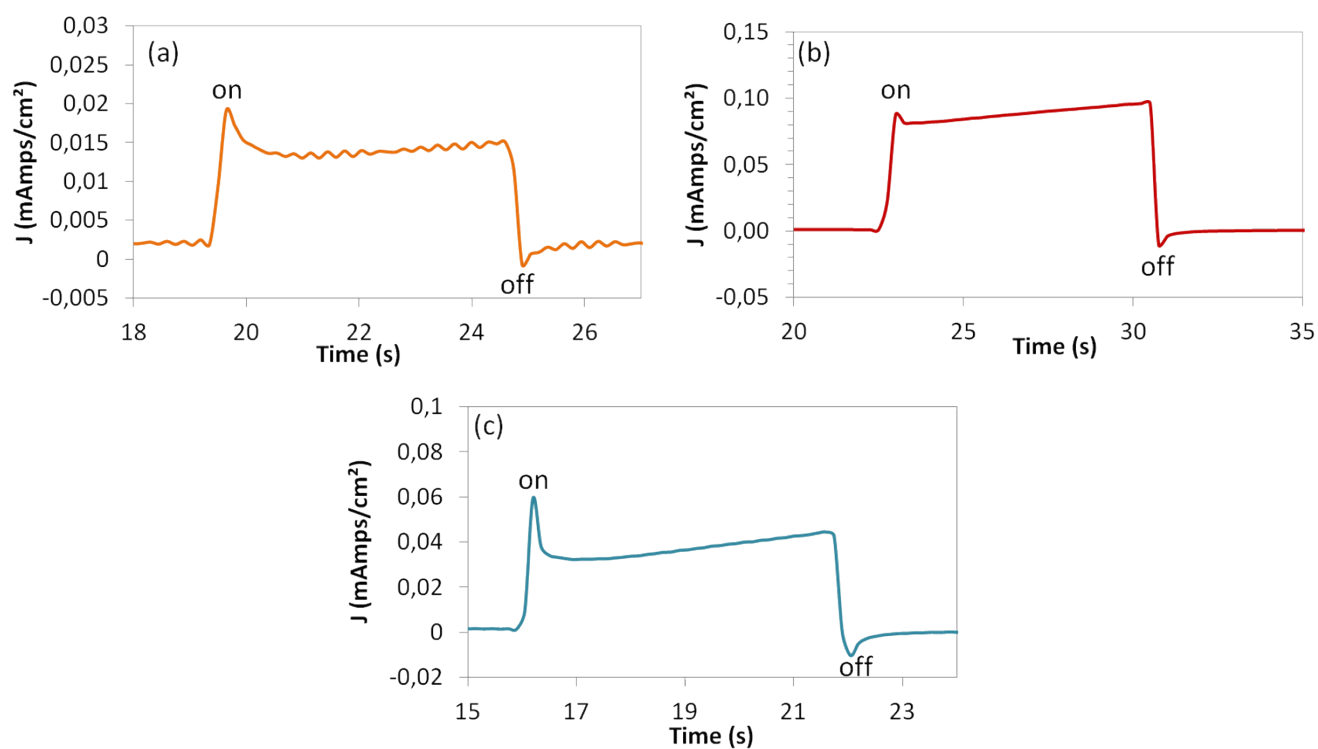
**Figure S2. Determination of bandgap:** variation of  $(\alpha k\nu)^{1/2}$  as function of  $h\nu$ .



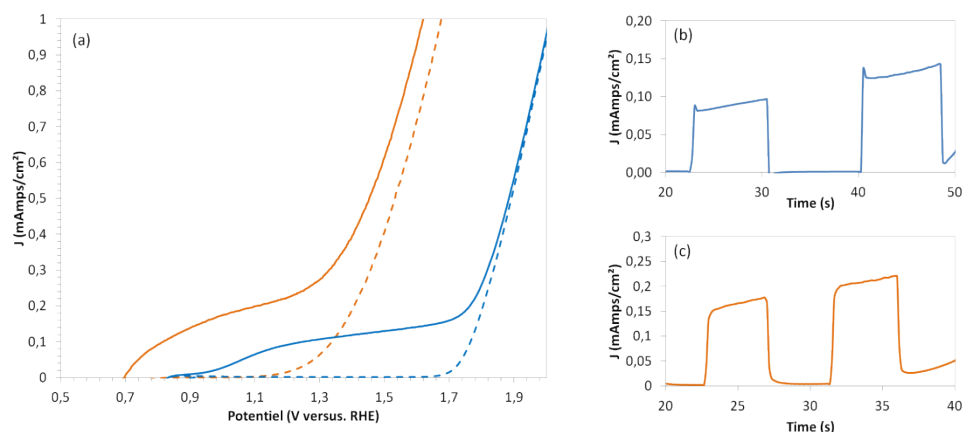
**Figure S3.** Current density vs applied potential (J–V) plots for the  $\text{Fe}_x\text{-TiO}_2$  electrodes as function of the iron content:  $\text{TiO}_2$  (purple);  $\text{Fe}_{0.01}\text{-TiO}_2$  (orange);  $\text{Fe}_{0.05}\text{-TiO}_2$  (green);  $\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{-TiO}_2$  (dark red);  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  (dark blue);  $\text{Fe}_{0.3}\text{-TiO}_2$  (light blue).



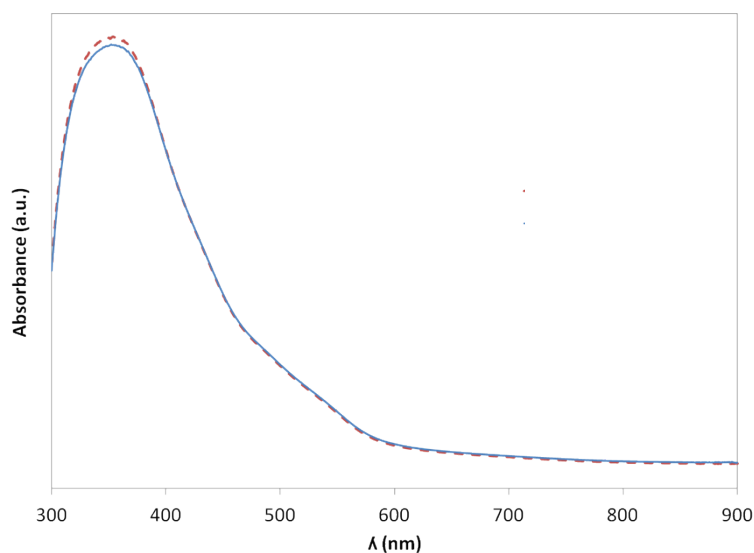
**Figure S4.** Gas chromatogram of the resulting gas from water splitting with the  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  photoanode during 6 hours and of air.



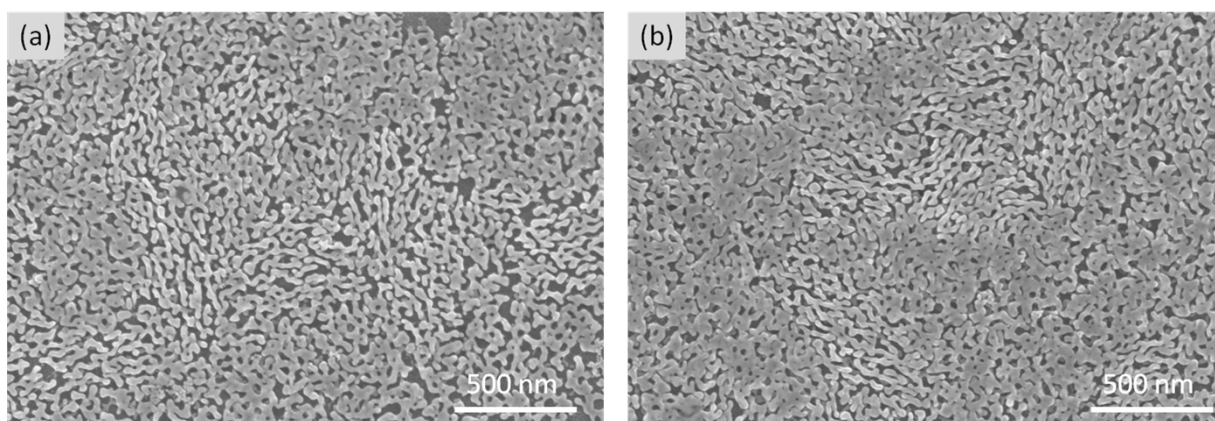
**Figure S5.** Chopped light photocurrent response of the (a)  $\text{Fe}_{0.01}\text{-TiO}_2$ , (b)  $\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{-TiO}_2$ , (c)  $\text{Fe}_{0.3}\text{-TiO}_2$  thin film electrode



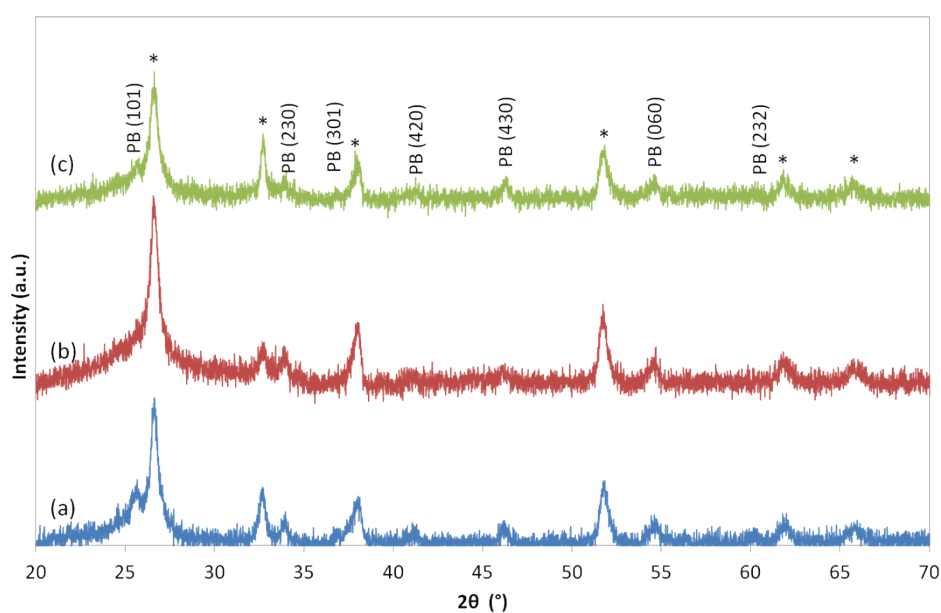
**Figure S6.** a. Current density vs applied potential (J–V) plots for the  $\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{-TiO}_2$  electrodes: dotted line (dark current); plain line (under illumination) in NaOH electrolyte (blue) and in NaOH (1M) +  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (0.5 M) electrolyte (orange). b. Chopped light photocurrent response in NaOH (1 M) electrolyte, c. Chopped light photocurrent response in NaOH (1 M) +  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  (0.5 M) electrolyte.



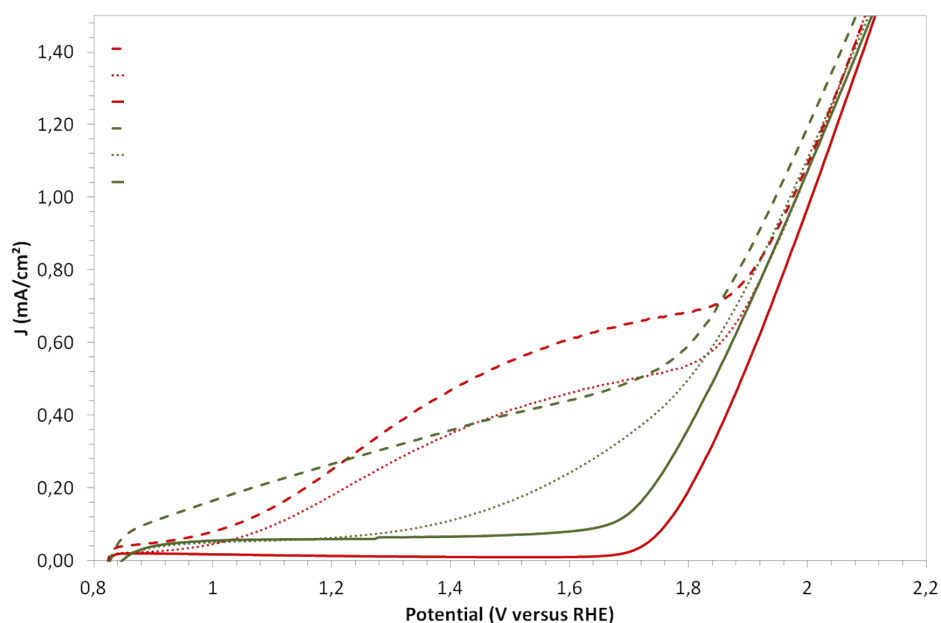
**Figure S7.** Absorbance for the  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  films before (red dotted line) and after Co deposition (plain blue line)



**Figure S8.** FE-SEM of  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  after annealing the film in 5% $\text{H}_2$ /Ar 30 min at 200 (a) and 300°C (b).



**Figure S9.** X-ray diffraction spectra of  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  after annealing the film in 5% $\text{H}_2$ /Ar for 30 min at 200°C (b) and 300°C (c). As comparison purpose, X-ray diffraction spectra of  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  heated at 500°C for 15 min in air; \*: FTO.



**Figure S10.** Current density vs applied potential (J–V) plots for the  $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  electrodes as function of the number of cycles (cycle 1 : dash line; cycle 2: small dashed line) for films heat-treated at  $200^\circ\text{C}$  under  $5\%\text{H}_2/\text{Ar}$  (red) and at  $300^\circ\text{C}$  under  $5\%\text{H}_2/\text{Ar}$  (green). The dark current is reported for comparison purpose (plain line).

**Table S1 :** Grain size of the different phases in the films calcined at  $500^\circ\text{C}$ , depending on the Fe concentration.

|                                 | Anatase               | Pseudobrookite        | Hematite              |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $\text{Fe}_{0.01}\text{-TiO}_2$ | $18 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ | -                     | -                     |
| $\text{Fe}_{0.05}\text{-TiO}_2$ | $14 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ | $12 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ | -                     |
| $\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{-TiO}_2$  | $8 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$  | $21 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ | -                     |
| $\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{-TiO}_2$  | $6 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$  | $25 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ | $19 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ |
| $\text{Fe}_{0.3}\text{-TiO}_2$  | -                     | $23 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ | $19 \pm 1 \text{ nm}$ |

**Table S2:** Room temperature  $^{57}\text{Fe}$  Mössbauer parameters of the studied samples.

| Sample                               | B (T)   | $\Delta/\varepsilon$<br>(mm/s) | $\delta$<br>(mm/s) | Area<br>(mm/s) | Site                                          |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Fe <sub>0.3</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub>  | 52,0(2) | -0,16(4)                       | 0,40(2)            | 20(4)          | Hematite                                      |
|                                      | -       | 0,90(2)                        | 0,40(1)            | 38(4)          | Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> – site<br>4c |
|                                      | -       | 0,53(2)                        | 0,40(1)            | 42(4)          | Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> – site<br>8f |
| Fe <sub>0.1</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub>  | 51,9(3) | -0,22(6)                       | 0,38(4)            | 16(4)          | Hematite                                      |
|                                      | -       | 0,90(2)                        | 0,38(1)            | 43(4)          | Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> – site<br>4c |
|                                      | -       | 0,59(3)                        | 0,39(1)            | 41(4)          | Fe <sub>2</sub> TiO <sub>5</sub> – site<br>8f |
| Fe <sub>0.01</sub> -TiO <sub>2</sub> | -       | 1,0(1)                         | 0,36(5)            | 100            | Fe(III)                                       |