Defluorination and Adsorption of Tetrafluoroethylene (TFE) on TiO₂(110) and Cr₃O₃(0001)

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Abstract

Being able to join dissimilar materials allows design engineers to create new structures or parts with tailor-engineered properties, e.g., exhibiting high temperature resistance in one area and good corrosion resistance in another. Notable examples include polymer-metal composites used in various specialized applications. All these applications fundamentally start with polymer adhesion on metal surfaces. We showed that metal oxide surfaces catalyze the formation of intermediate defuorinated tetrafuoroethylene (TFE) radicals, resulting in enhanced binding on the corresponding metal oxide surfaces (cf., Fig. 1). As expected, reactivity of the corresponding metal oxide surfaces depends on the oxygen coordination of metal surface atoms. Thus, introducing oxygen vacancies and nonionizing radiations to form intermediate radicals could promote binding of polymers to metals and metal-oxide surfaces, allowing for better materials design. This could find significant applications not only in joining dissimilar materials, but also allow for flexibilities in realizing materials with the desired (predetermined) characteristic properties. Further details will be presented at the meeting.



Fig. 1. (Right panel) A depiction of TFE interaction with $TiO_2(110)$ and $Cr_2O_3(0001)$ in 3 different configurations, viz., reference structure (0), molecular adsorption (1), and defluorinated adsorption (2) on the corresponding surfaces. Upper left panel shows the corresponding relative energies for optimized adsorbates on frozen surfaces. Lower left panel shows the corresponding relative energies upon surface relaxation. (Note stronger TFE adsorption on $Cr_2O_3(0001)$ than on $TiO_2(110)$. Energy trends remain even after implementing van der Waals (vdW) correction). (Taken from [1]).

Recent Publications (maximum 5)

- [1] S. Yasuda et al., ACS Nano 16 (2022) 14362.
- [2] Y. Tsuda et al., JACS Au 2 (2022) 1839.
- [3] T. Kasai et al., J. Chin. Chem. Soc. 69 (2022) 630.
- [4] J.S. Gueriba et al., Sci. Rep. 11 (2021) 21551-1-7.
- [5] Y. Tsuda et al., Sci. Rep. 11 (2021) 3906-1-8.

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