

Electronic Supporting Information

Adsorption of 6-MHO on Two Indoor Surface Materials: SiO₂ and TiO₂

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The ESI contains 4 figures and 2 tables including: Figure S1 depicts the ordinate plots of the normalized integrated peak area of 6-MHO at 1705 cm⁻¹; Figure S2 is the gas phase scan of the energy of 6-MHO as a function of the dihedral angle depicted in Figure 7 of the manuscript; Figure S3 is the full oxygen power spectra for 6-MHO on SiO₂; Figure S4 is the full oxygen power spectra for 6-MHO on TiO₂; Table S1 and S2 are the list of simulations for all classical molecular dynamics and all *ab initio* molecular dynamics.

Supplemental methods descriptions:

For our force-field based MD simulations of TiO₂ surfaces, the surfaces were prepared as followed: A 110 rutile TiO₂ unit cell was replicated in the x, y and z directions to create the initial structure.¹ Due to the outstanding debate over the nature of the interactions of water on the TiO₂ surface, force field-based MD simulations for both a non-hydroxylated TiO₂ surface with surface Ti atoms and a fully hydroxylated TiO₂ with no surface Ti atoms have been prepared.²⁻⁶ A 35 x 40 x 21 Å³ TiO₂ slab was created and 77 Å of vacuum was placed separating the upper and lower surfaces in the z direction. From this initial surface with 720 Ti atoms and 1440 O atoms, the non-hydroxylated and hydroxylated TiO₂ surfaces were produced. For clarity, we can consider all TiO₂ surfaces consisting of two parts, the frozen core Ti and O atoms and the surface atoms. In the case of the non-hydroxylated surface, the surface atoms are the bridging oxygen

atoms and 5-coordinated Ti atoms. In the case of the hydroxylated surface, all atoms on the top and bottom of the surface were hydroxylated, thus the surface atoms are the surface OH groups. The force field produced by Brandt et al. was used for the non-hydroxylated surface.⁷ For the hydroxylated surface, the nonbonded parameters were set to 0 for hydrogen and in order to ensure a neutral surface, the partial charge of all hydrogen atoms was set to +0.44175 e. and the O–H group oxygen partial charge was set to -0.80 e. During the course of the simulation, all bulk atoms were frozen, and all surface atoms were allowed to move freely. There were small distortions of the TiO₂ surface, however the general structure of the TiO₂ crystal was retained.

For our force-field based MD simulations of a SiO₂ surface, the surface was prepared as followed: we prepared an amorphous SiO₂ structure by applying an annealing procedure to an alpha-quartz supercell composed of 11 x 11 x 8 units cells. To accommodate periodic boundary conditions, bonds were introduced between the atoms located at the boards of the crystal with their bonding partners located at the opposite surface, as described in our previous work.⁸ Upon completion of the annealing process, a 24 x 50 x 50 Å³ slab was selected from the annealed bulk structure, and oxygen atoms were added to ensure all surface Si atoms satisfied tetrahedral coordination. The hydroxylated SiO₂ surface was generated by hydrogenating the surface oxygen atoms that had only one Si-O bond, resulting in a silanol surface density of 6.7 nm⁻².

For our AIMD simulations of TiO₂ surfaces, the surfaces were prepared as followed: the base TiO₂ surface containing 90 Ti atoms and 180 O atoms was selected from a portion of the classical MD surface to construct the non-hydroxylated and fully hydroxylated TiO₂ surface, accounting to 5 layers of Ti and O atoms, which was sufficient to allow for ample simulation time (13 ps). Then, for the fully hydroxylated surface, additional OH groups were added to the surface. For the non-hydroxylated surface with 4 water molecules, a slightly larger size in the y

direction of the TiO₂ surface (125 Ti atoms and 250 O atoms) was used. During the course of the simulation, the bottom half of the TiO₂ surface was frozen.

For our AIMD simulations of SiO₂ surfaces, the surfaces were prepared as followed: a cluster from the force-field MD simulations was obtained and then fully hydroxylated, resulting in a Si₂₃O₆₆H₄₀ cluster. To create the partially dehydroxylated surface, two OH groups from surface Si atoms were removed. Each 3-coordinated Si atom was given an unpaired electron, as described by Anderson et al.⁹ All systems were placed in orthorhombic boxes under periodic boundary conditions in the X and Y directions with the Z direction normal to the surface.

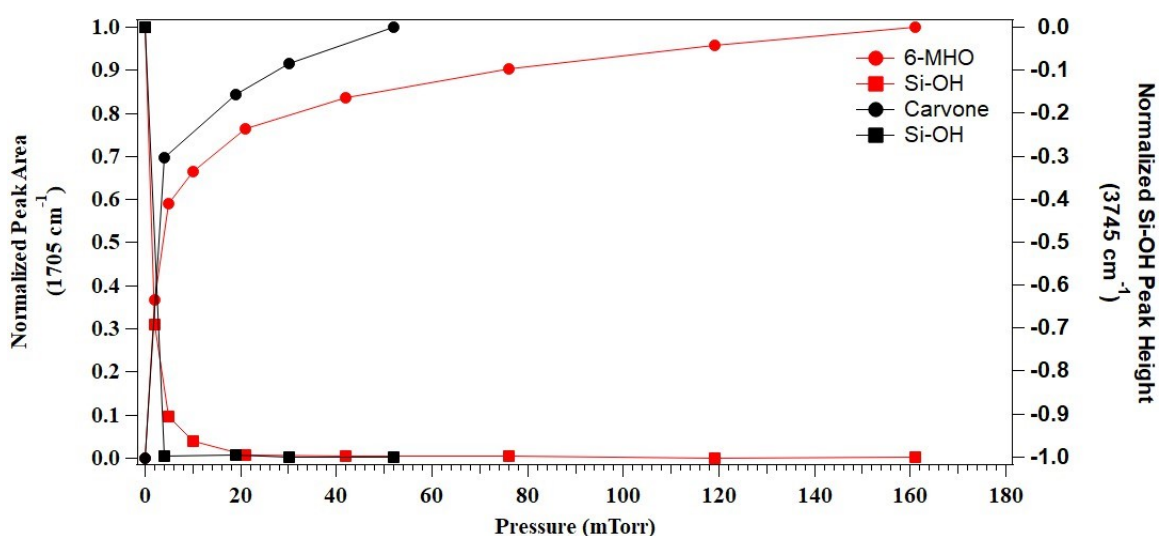


Figure S1. The ordinate plots of the normalized integrated peak area of 6-MHO at 1705 cm⁻¹ (ranging from 1640 to 1760 cm⁻¹, red solid circles) compared to the normalized integrated peak area of carvone at 1660 cm⁻¹(ranging from 1500 to 1800 cm⁻¹, black solid circles) as function of pressures (mTorr). The right ordinate plots the normalized peak height of the loss of Si-OH function groups at 3745 cm⁻¹ (red solid squares for 6-MHO and black solid squares for carvone). The equilibrium pressures are 2, 5, 10, 21, 42, 76, 119, and 161 mTorr for 6-MHO and 4, 19, 30 and 52 mTorr for carvone, respectively.

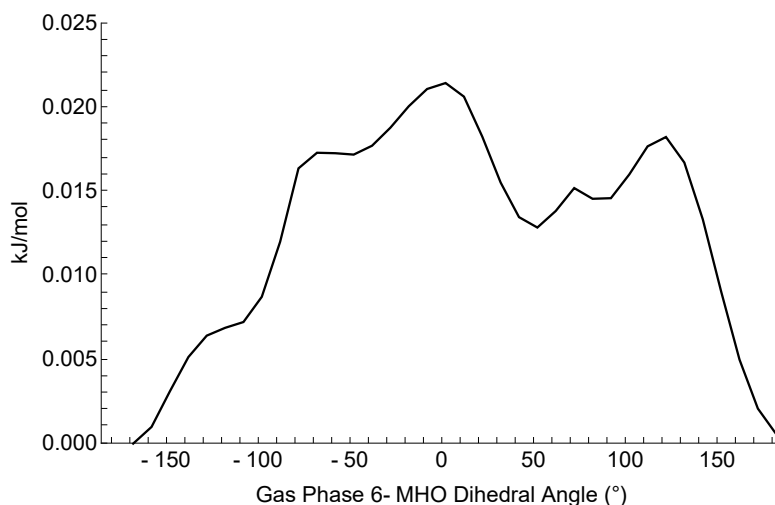


Figure S2. Gas phase scan of 6-MHO dihedral angle depicted in Figure 7 of the manuscript.

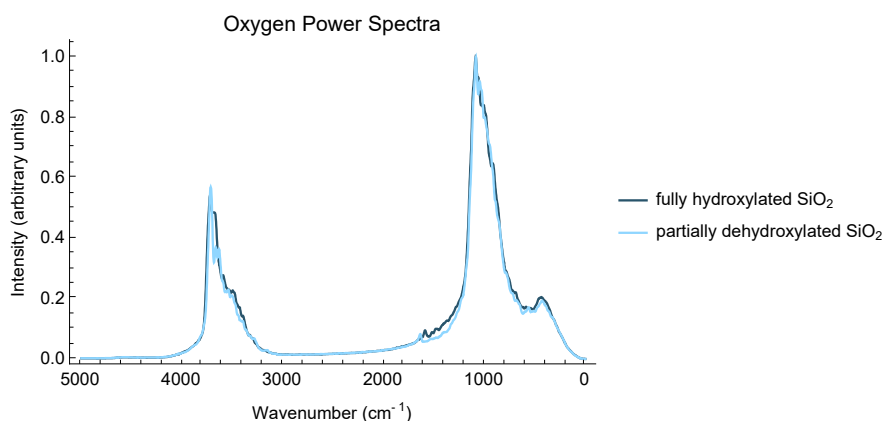


Figure S3. Power spectra for all oxygen atoms for 6-MHO adsorbed on the fully hydroxylated SiO_2 surface and partially dehydroxylated surface. All intensity values have been scaled to run from 0 to 1.

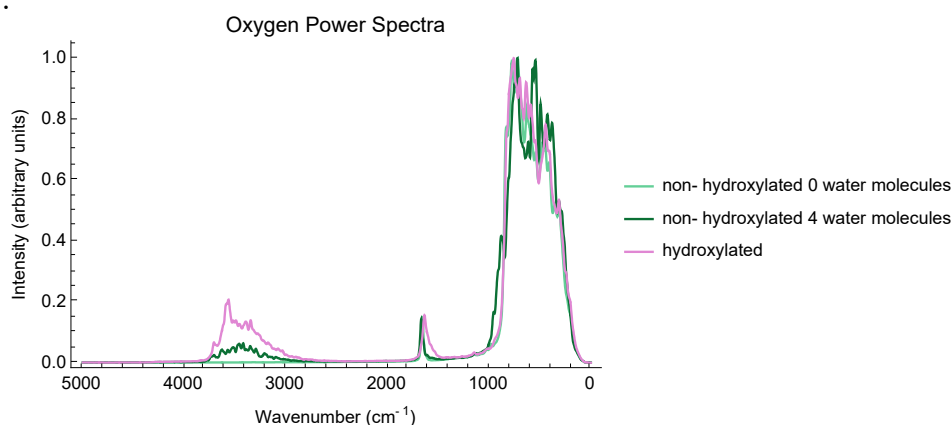


Figure S4. Power spectra for all oxygen atoms for 6-MHO adsorbed on the non-hydroxylated TiO_2 surface with 4 water molecules and for 6-MHO adsorbed on the hydroxylated TiO_2 surface. All intensity values have been scaled to run from 0 to 1.

Table S1. List of all classical molecular dynamics unbiased simulations

| Surface | Simulation time |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| SiO ₂ | 50 ns |
| Non-hydroxylated TiO ₂ | 50 ns |
| Hydroxylated TiO ₂ | 50 ns |

Table S2. List of all *ab initio* molecular dynamics simulations

| Surface | Functional | Simulation time |
|--|------------|-----------------|
| Fully hydroxylated SiO ₂ cluster | BYLP-D3 | 40 ps |
| Partially dehydroxylated SiO ₂ cluster | BYLP-D3 | 16 ps |
| 6-MHO gas phase | BYLP-D3 | 10 ps |
| Fully hydroxylated TiO ₂ cluster | PBE | 20 ps |
| Non-hydroxylated TiO ₂ cluster | PBE | 20 ps |
| Non-hydroxylated TiO ₂ cluster with 4 water molecules | PBE | 13 ps |
| 6-MHO gas phase | PBE | 10 ps |

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