

# Superior single atom catalysts (SACs) made by flame aerosol technology:



## The effect Pd size on $\text{TiO}_2$ for photocatalytic $\text{NO}_x$ removal

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# Flame-made Commodities @ t/h

Paints &  
Photocatalysts

Courtesy of Dupont

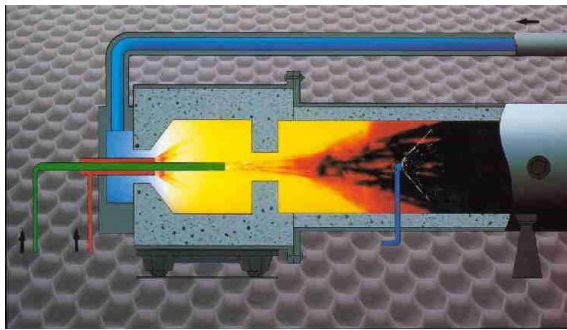
Tires (~30 wt%)



Carbon Black  
(\$10 B)



Inks



Furnace Process for Carbon Black Production



TiO<sub>2</sub>  
(\$5 B)

25 t/h, Re 10<sup>6</sup>

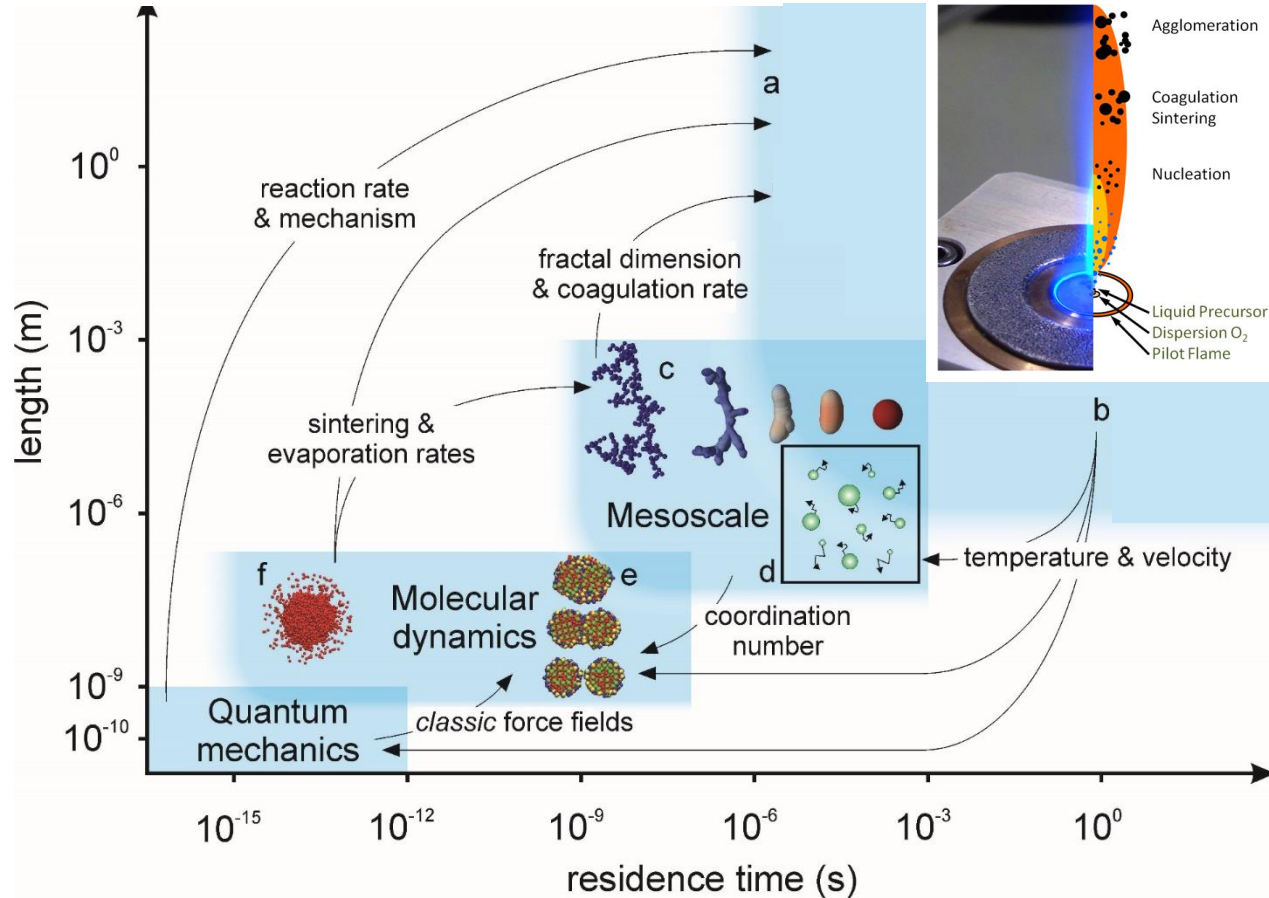


SiO<sub>2</sub> (\$3 B)  
Flowing aid

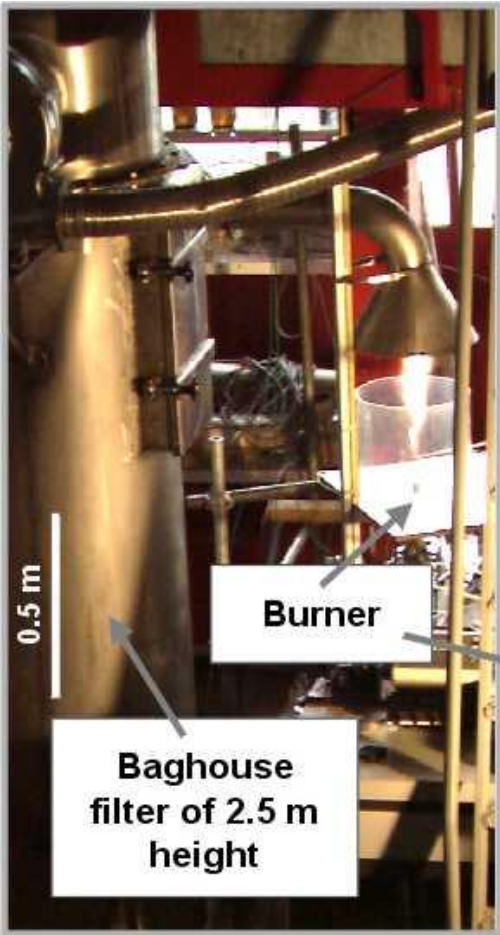


Courtesy of Cabot

# Multi-Scale Design for Synthesis of Flame-made materials



# Quantitative understanding facilitates a) Scale-up ....



700 g/h SiO<sub>2</sub>  
Re= 3'000-16'000



H<sub>2</sub>-air diffusion flame



H. Kammler, R. Müller, O. Senn, SEP, *AICHE J.*, (2001).

# and b) drives innovation....

Multicomponent Nanomaterials en masse  
by Spray Combustion or Flame Spray Pyrolysis (FSP)

## SPP1980 SPRAYSYN

NANOPARTIKELSYNTHESE  
IN SPRAYFLAMMEN

A 6-year, 6M Euro  
program by the German  
NSF for 30 PhD students  
started in April 2017

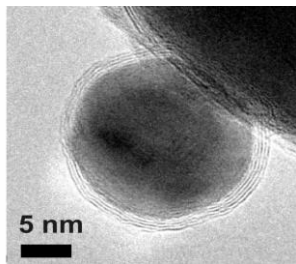


**HARVARD**  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

NIH – NHIR → \$5M  
NTU Sus Nano → \$5M

# New flame-made products @ kg/h

**Biomagnetic ferrofluids:  
C-coated Co  
100k – 1M\$/kg**



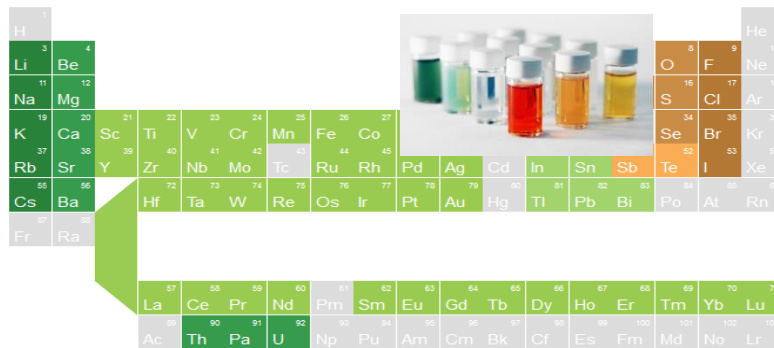
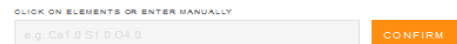
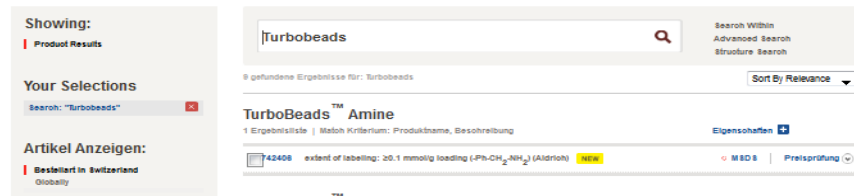
$\text{Ag}/\text{SiO}_2 \rightarrow$  **nanosilver** toxicity  
by ions or particles?



**nano-Ag for antibacterial applications**



Switzerland Home > Suchergebnisse > TurboBeads



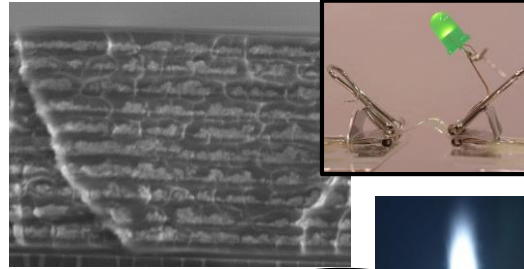
**TurboBeads®**

Product #697745 → 500 mg dry powder @ \$105

**Flame-to-order  
Nanoparticle Compositions**

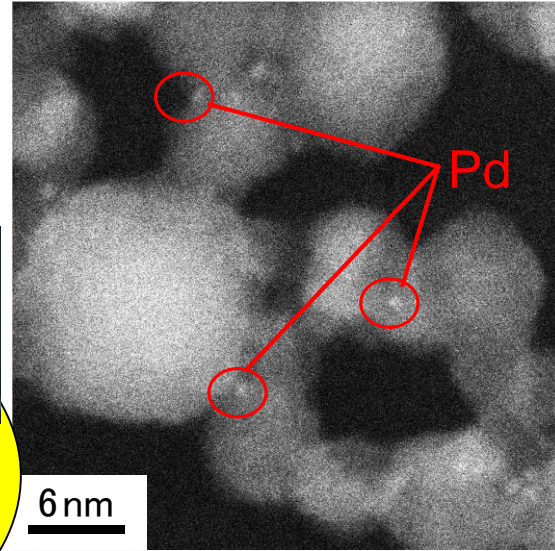
## Conductive composites

Dental fillers and bone replacement

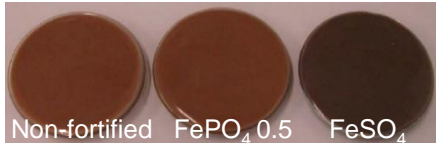


Novel flame-made functional materials

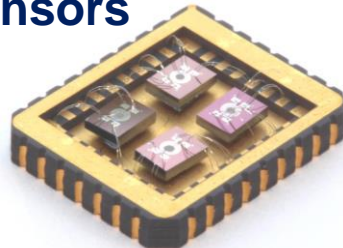
## Single Atom Catalysts



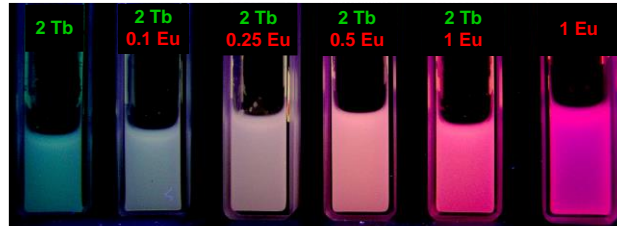
Nutrition Supplements



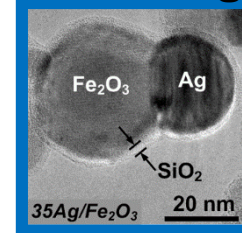
## Breath Sensors



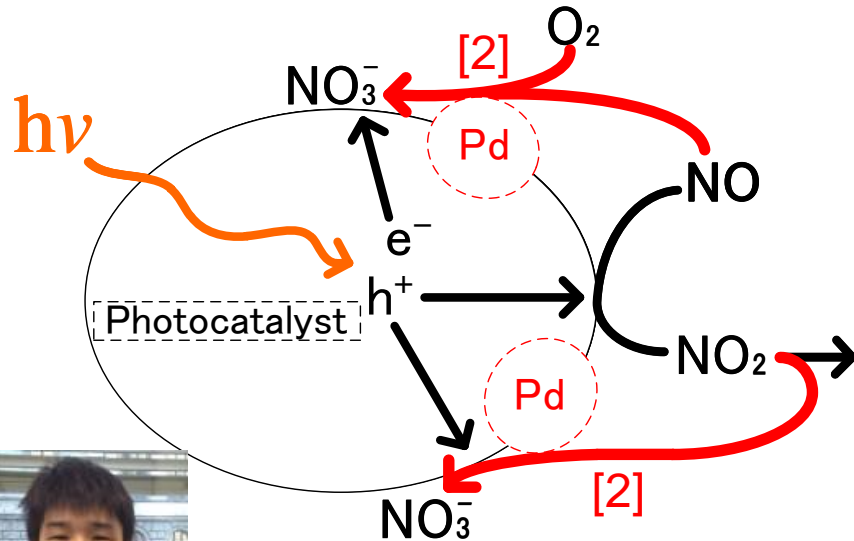
Phosphors for bioimaging



SiO2-coated SPION/Ag



# Photocatalytic removal of NO<sub>x</sub> (NO and NO<sub>2</sub>)<sup>[1]</sup>

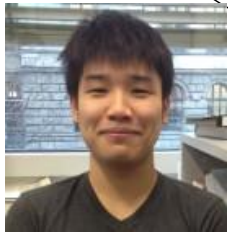


## Challenges

- Selectivity for NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (vs. NO<sub>2</sub>)
- Minimization of Pd used

## Approaches

- **Maximize** Pd atoms on the surface by decreasing Pd size.
- **Below 1 nm**, Pd dispersion becomes close to ~ 100 %.



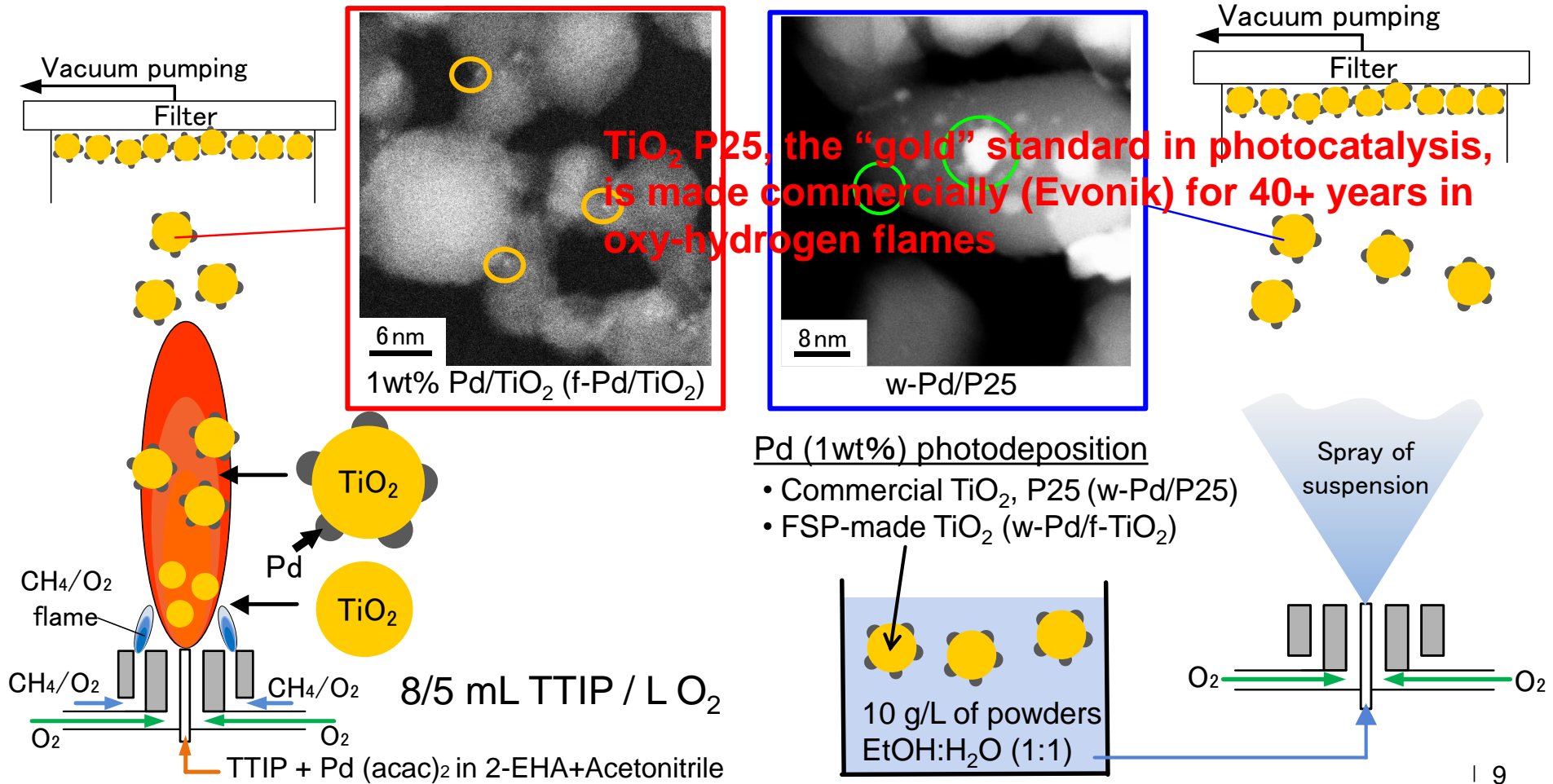
Prof. Kakeru Fujiwara  
\*currently at Yamagata  
University, Japan

[1] Dalton, J. S.; Janes, P. A.; Jones, N. G.; Nicholson, J. A.; Hallam, K. R.; Allen, G. C., *Environ. Pollut.* **2002**, 120 (2), 415-422.

[2] Wu, Z.; Sheng, Z.; Liu, Y.; Wang, H.; Tang, N.; Wang, J., *J. Hazard. Mater.* **2009**, 164 (2), 542-548.

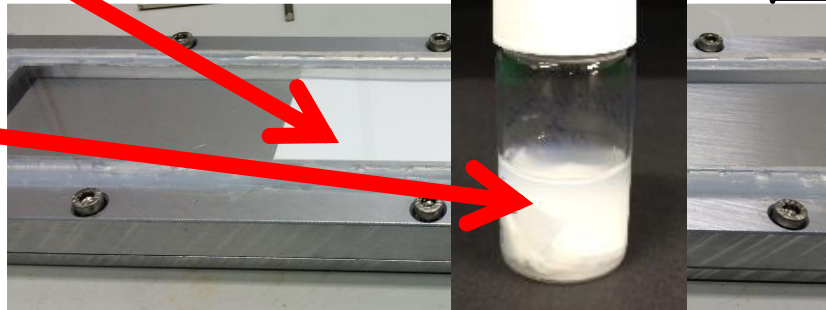
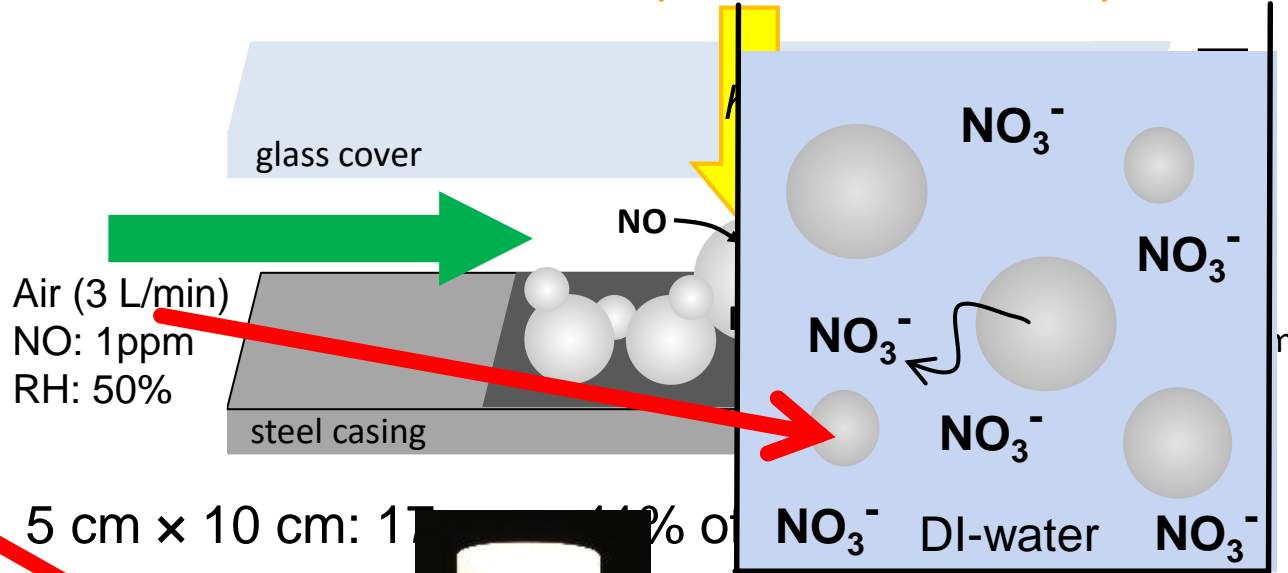


# Photocatalysts by wet-chemistry & flame synthesis

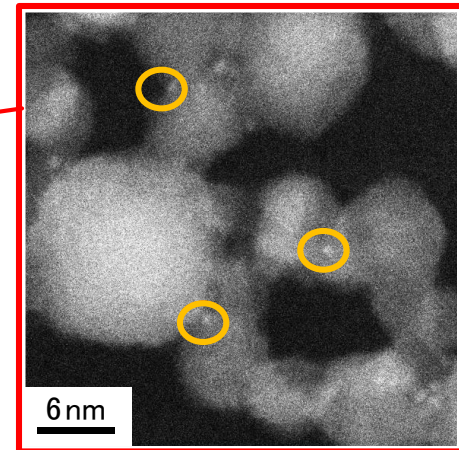
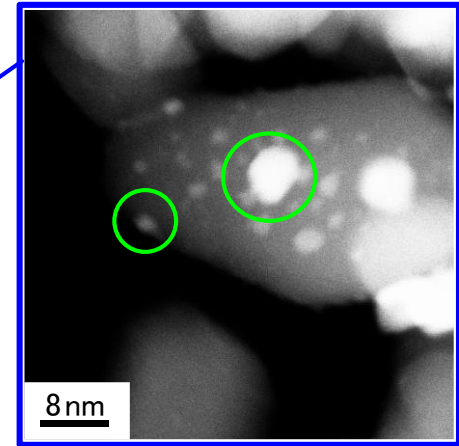
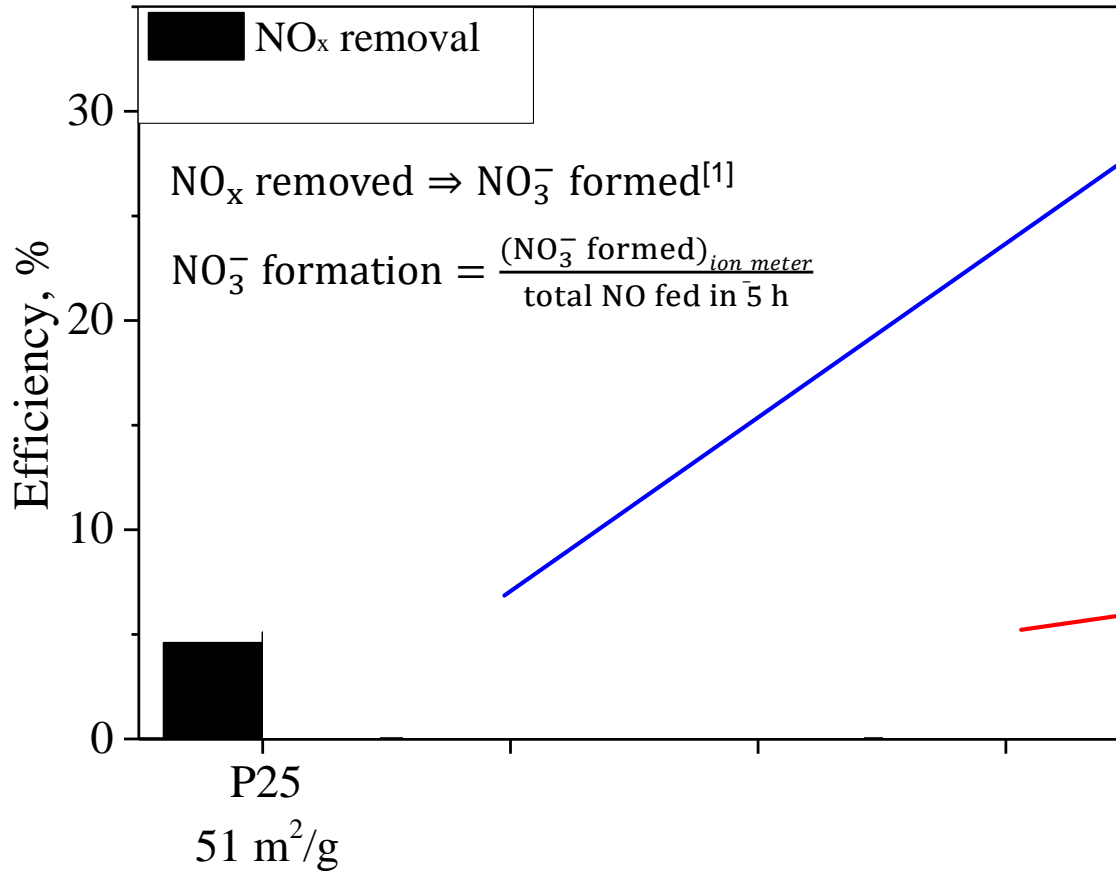


# NO<sub>x</sub> removal test (ISO: 22197-1:2007)

Solar simulator (AM 1.5, 100 mW/cm<sup>2</sup>)

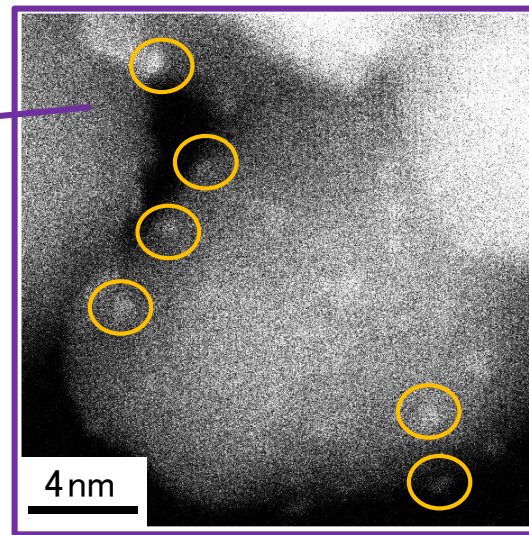
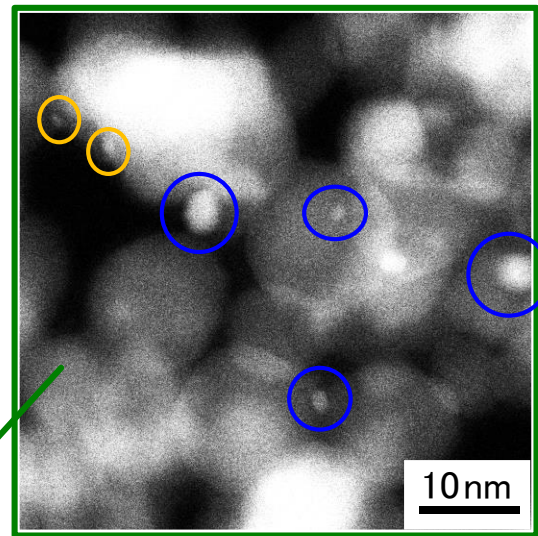
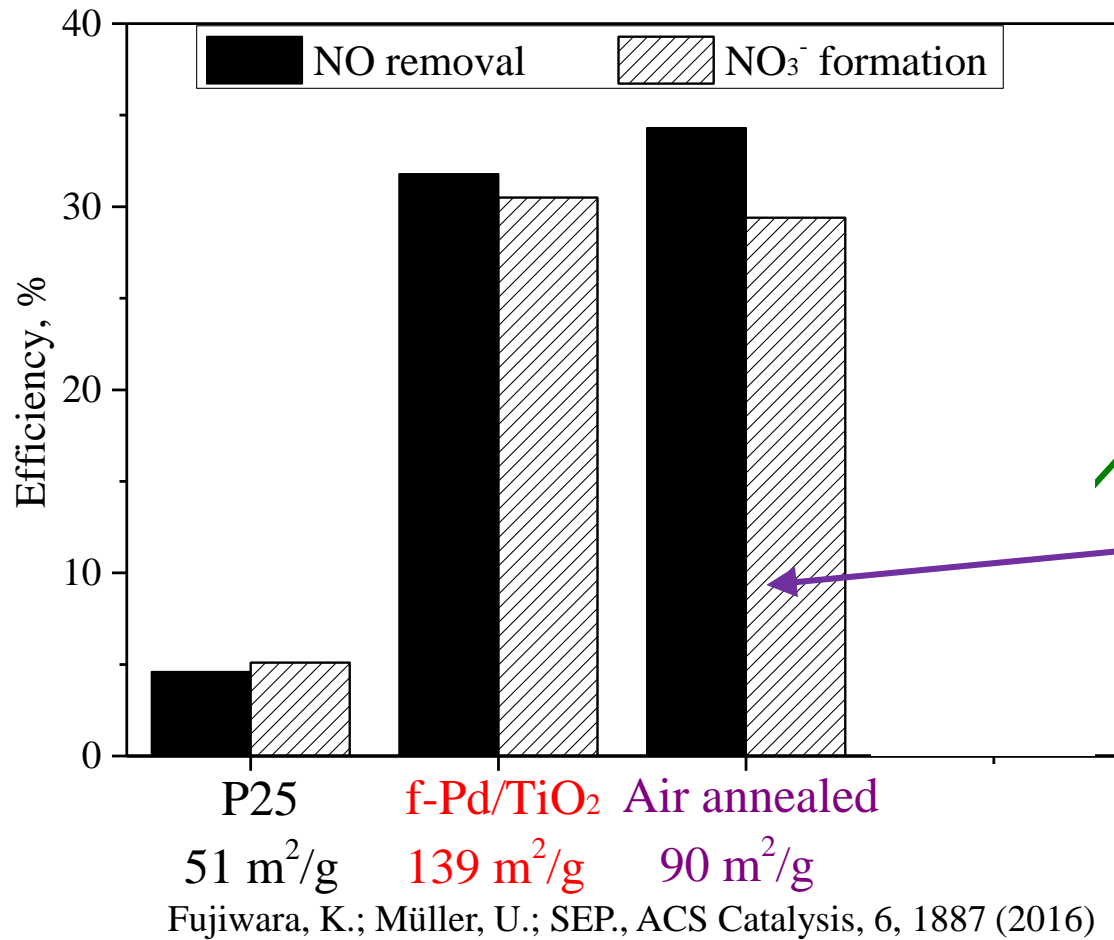


# Solar NO<sub>x</sub> removal activity: Preparation method

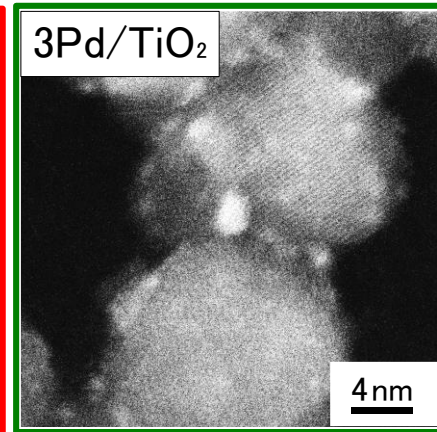
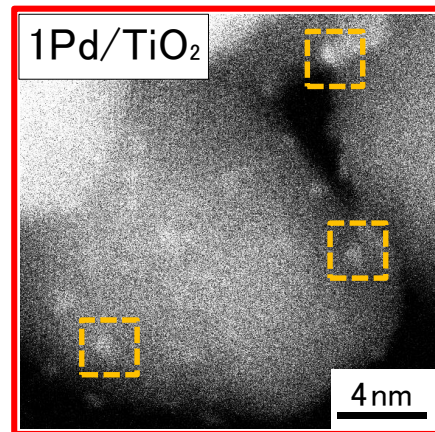
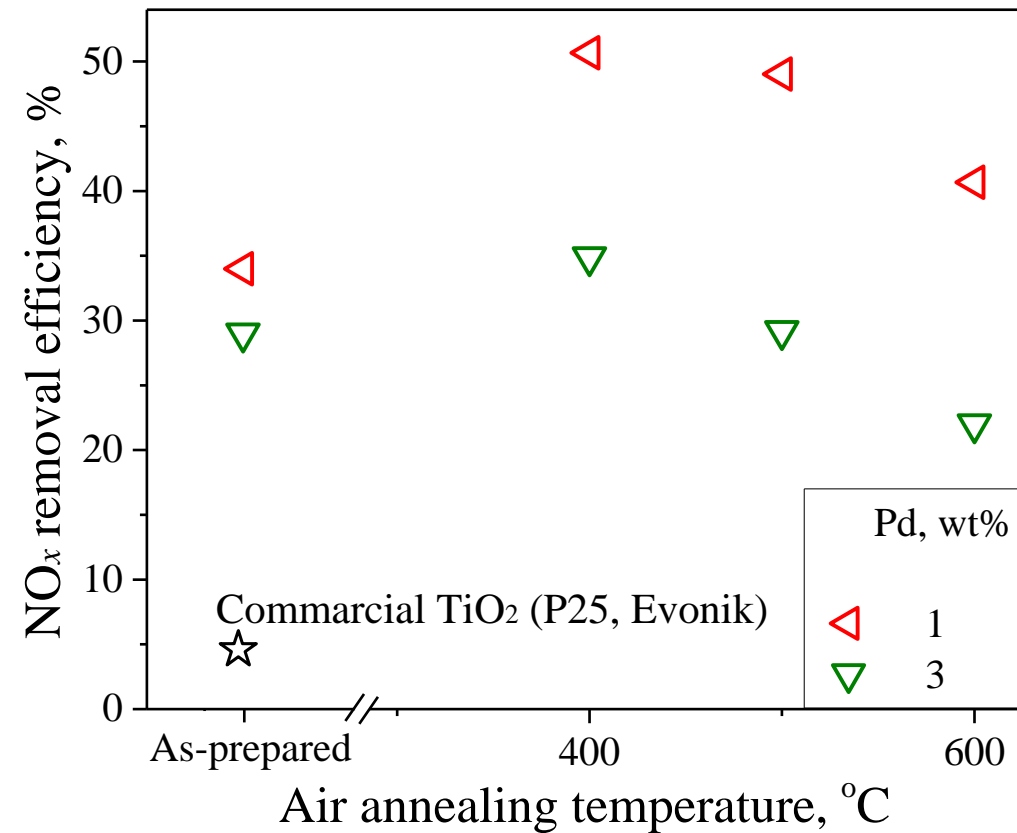


[1] Dalton, J. S.; Janes, P. A.; Jones, N. G.; Nicholson, J. A.; Hallam, K. R.; Allen, G. C., *Environ. Pollut.* **2002**, 120 (2), 415-422.

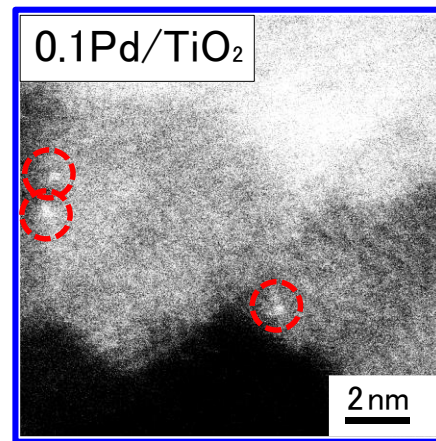
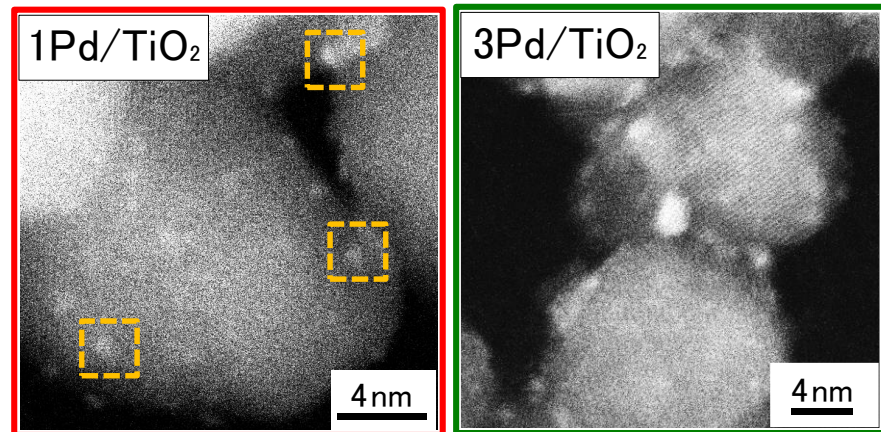
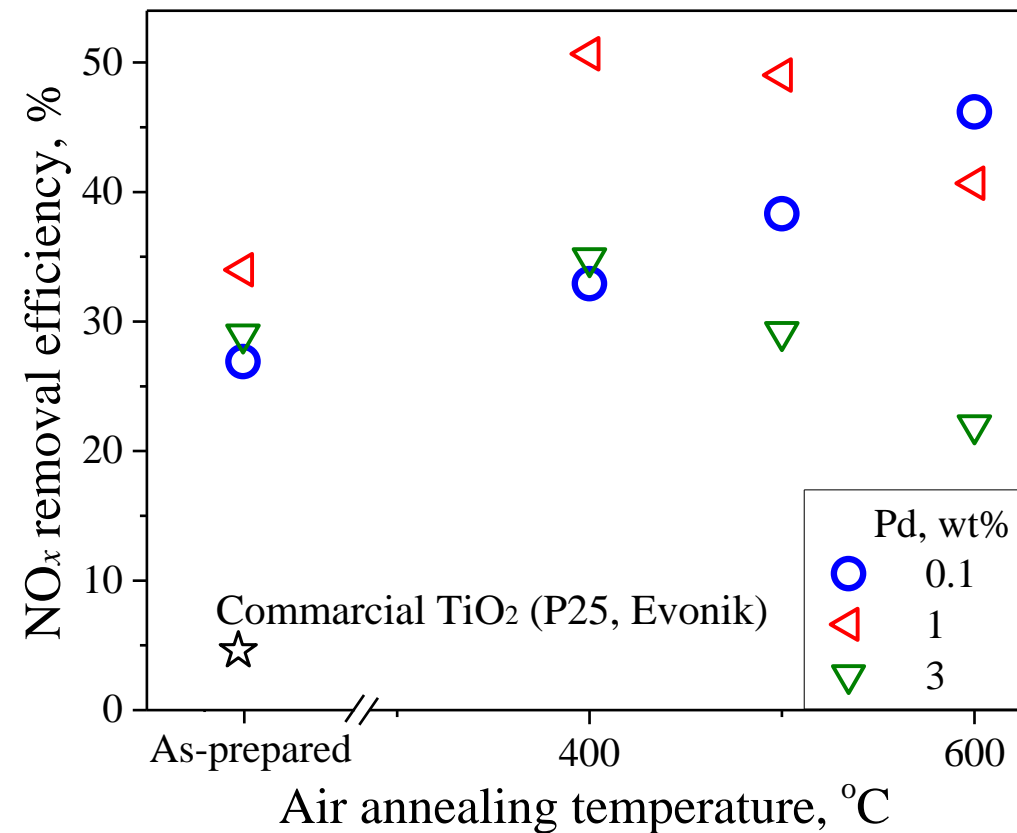
# NO<sub>x</sub> removal activity: Pd growth



# Optimal Pd loading & conditions w.r.t. NO removal



# Optimal Pd loading & conditions w.r.t. NO removal



Fujiwara, K.; SEP, *AIChE J.*, **63**, 139 (2017)

# Comparison with other photocatalysts

$$\text{Improvement, \%} = \frac{\eta_{NO_x}}{\eta_{NO_x} \text{ of reference TiO}_2} \times 100$$

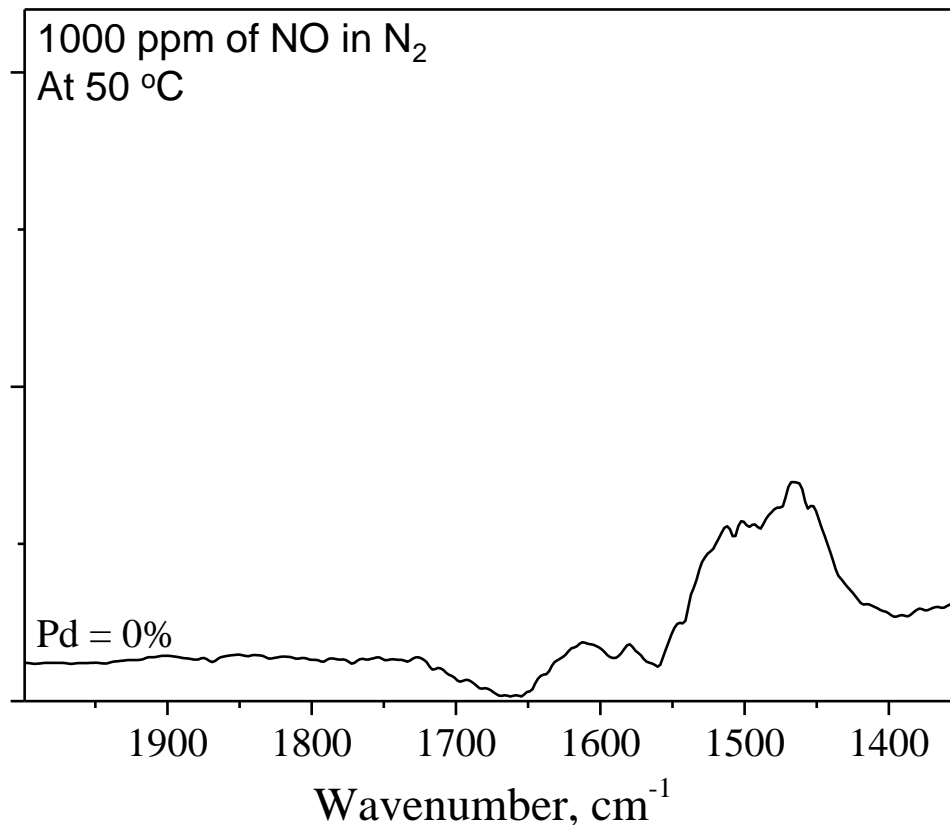
Ref.		Improvement over P25, %	Reference TiO <sub>2</sub>	Light source
	<b>0.1Pd/TiO<sub>2</sub> (This work)</b> <b>Air annealing at 600 °C</b>	<b>917</b>	P25	Solar simulator
[1]	1Pd/TiO <sub>2</sub> (Wet precipitation)	121	P25	UV
[2]	Brookite TiO <sub>2</sub>	156	P25	UV
[3]	Plasma treated TiO <sub>2</sub>	~250	ST-1	UV-Vis

[1] Hsiao, Y.-C.; Tseng, Y.-H., *Micro & Nano Letters* **2010**, 5 (5), 317-320.

[2] Bloh, J. Z.; Folli, A.; Macphee, D. E., *RSC Advances* **2014**, 4 (86), 45726-45734.

[3] Nakamura, I.; Negishi, N.; Kutsuna, S.; Ihara, T.; Sugihara, S.; Takeuchi, K., *J. Mol. Catal. A: Chem.* **2000**, 161 (1-2), 205-212

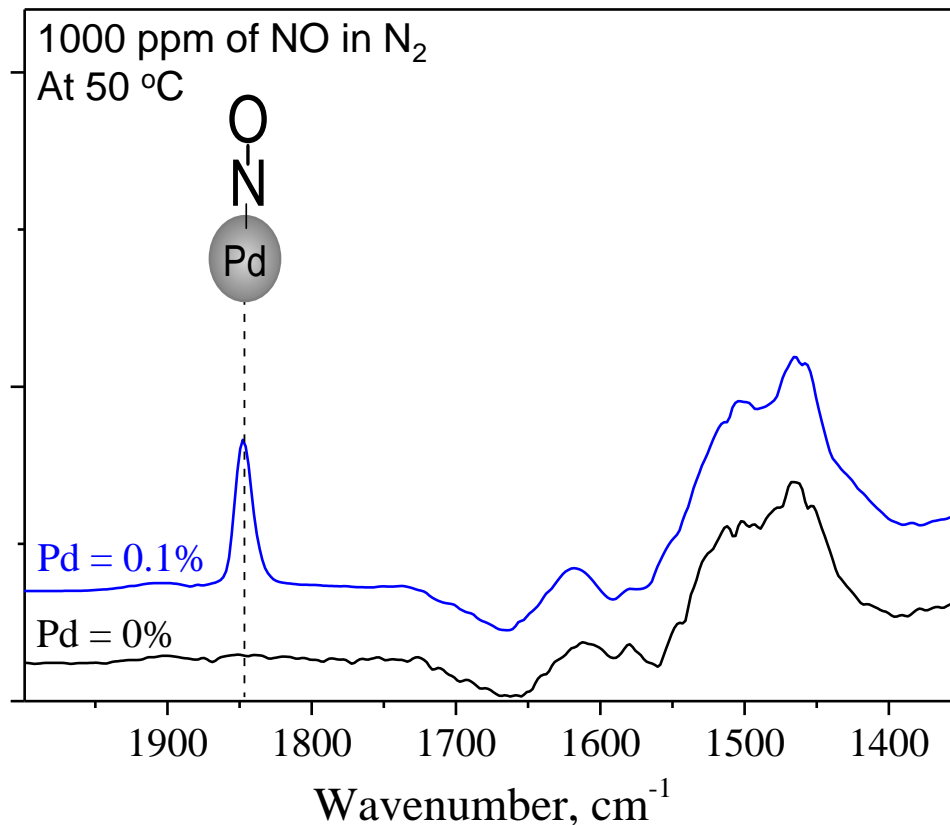
# Pd structure by FTIR with probing molecular (NO)



\*All catalysts are annealed in air at 600 °C for 2 h.



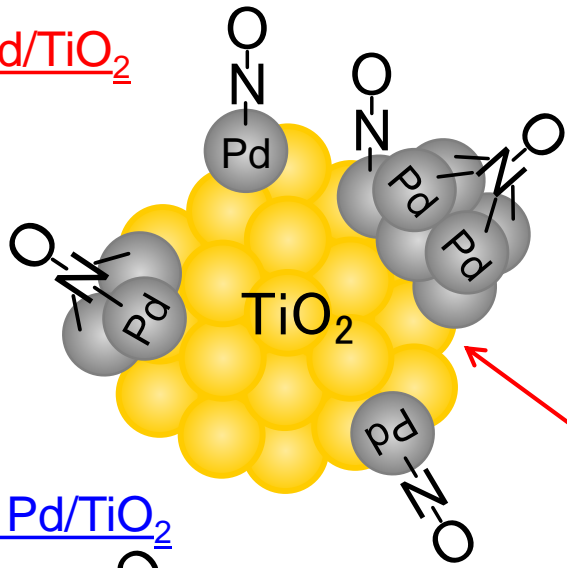
# Pd structure by FTIR with probing molecular (NO)



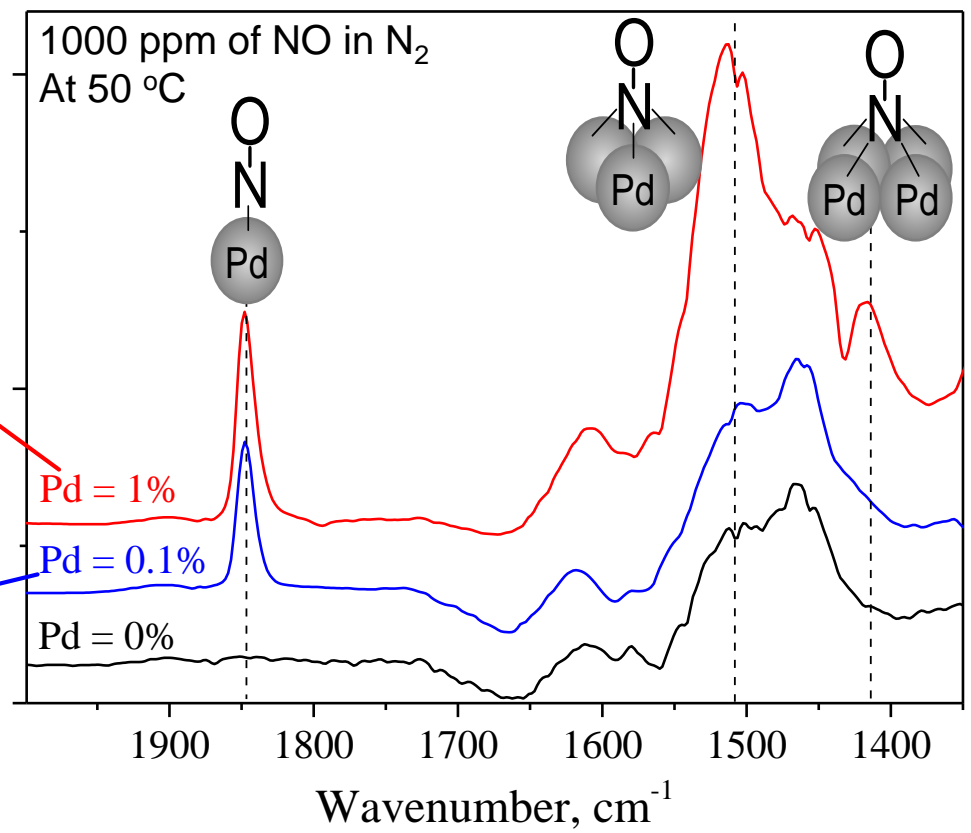
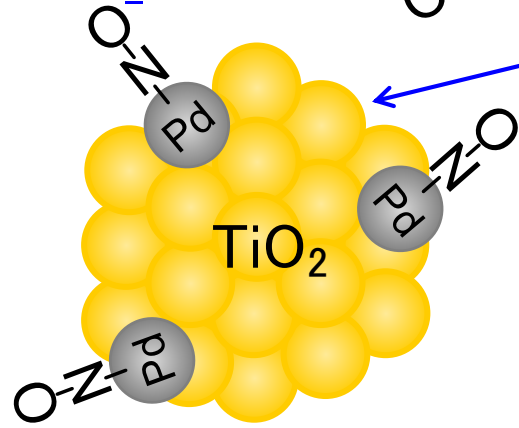
\*All catalysts are annealed in air at 600 °C for 2 h.

# Pd structure by FTIR with probing molecular (NO)

1Pd/TiO<sub>2</sub>



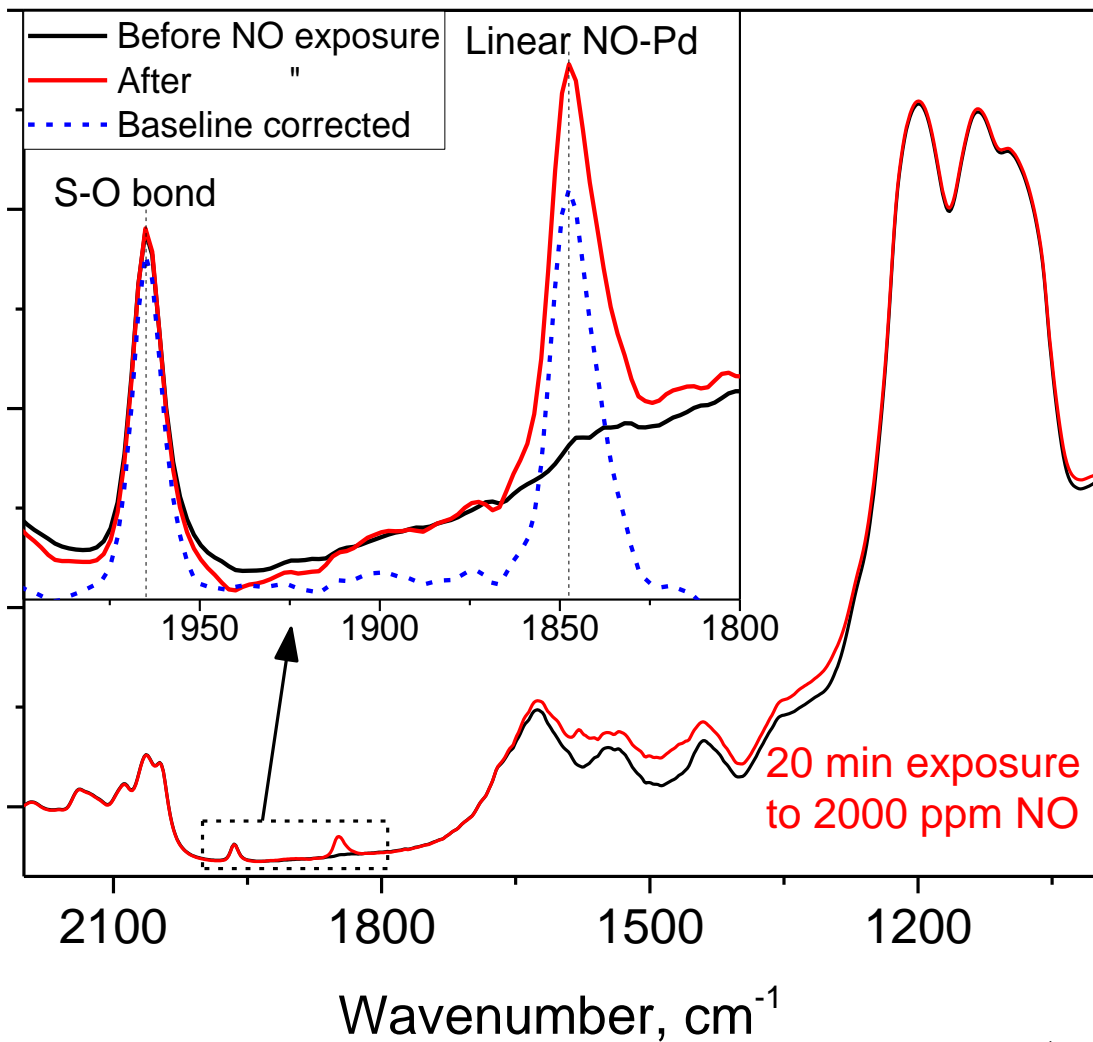
0.1Pd/TiO<sub>2</sub>



\*All catalysts are annealed in air at 600 °C for 2 h.

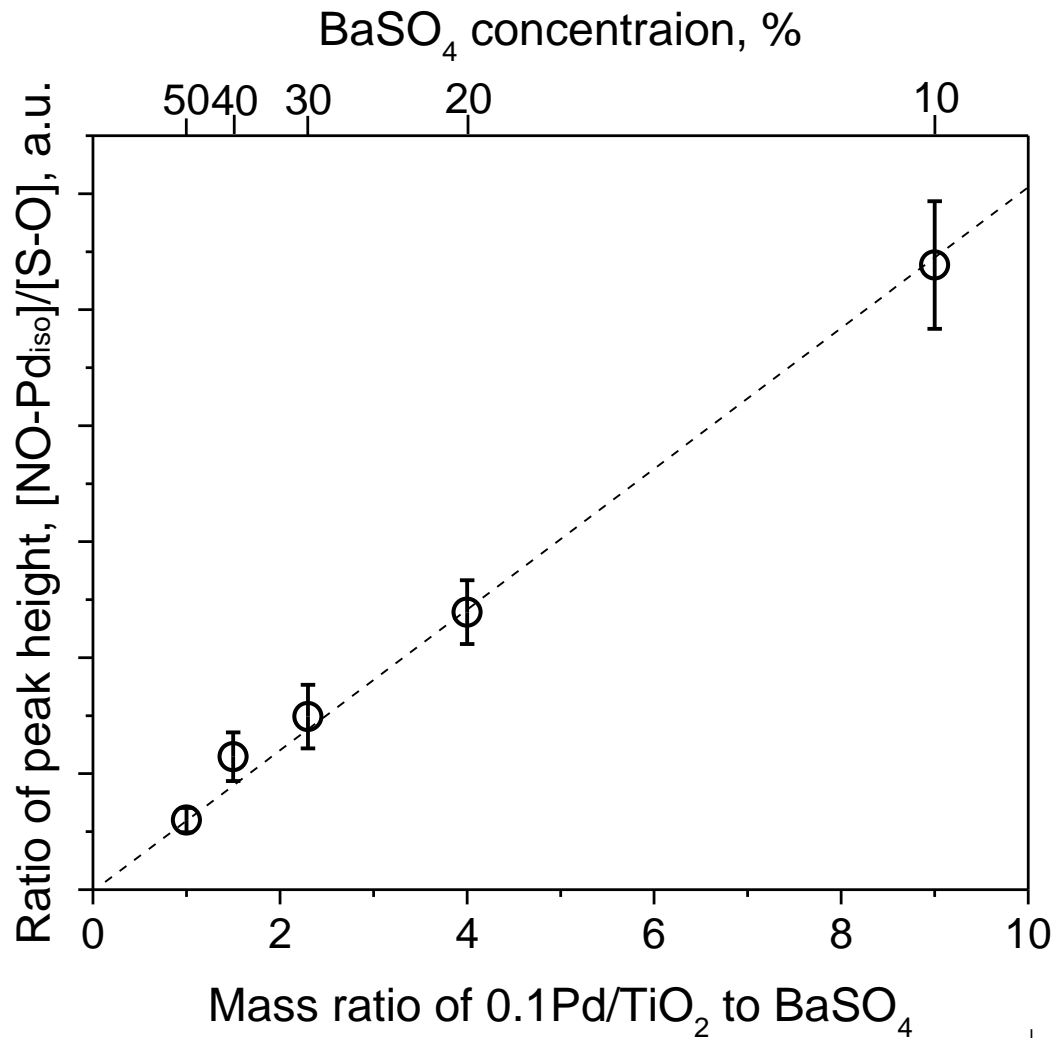
**Quantification of NO<sub>x</sub> removal  
by Pd atoms and clusters by  
DRIFTS and inclusion of  
BaSO<sub>4</sub> as internal standard**

TiO<sub>2</sub> containing 0.1 wt% of Pd  
with 50 wt.% of BaSO<sub>4</sub>



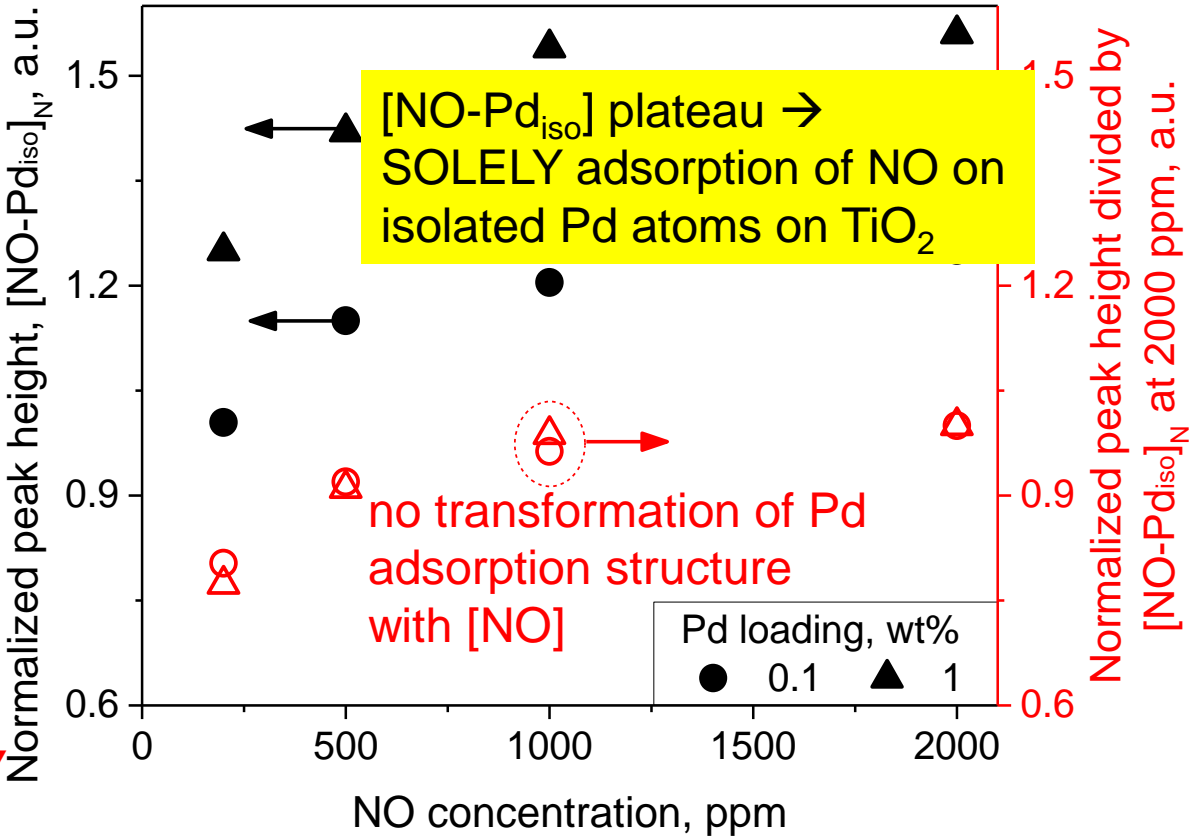
Quantification of NO<sub>x</sub> removal  
by Pd atoms and clusters by  
DRIFTS and inclusion of  
BaSO<sub>4</sub> as internal standard

the peak height of NO adsorption  
normalized to the S-O height is  
*linearly* proportional to the  
population of isolated Pd sites



Quantification of  $\text{NO}_x$  removal  
 by Pd atoms and clusters by  
 DRIFTS and inclusion of  
 $\text{BaSO}_4$  as internal standard

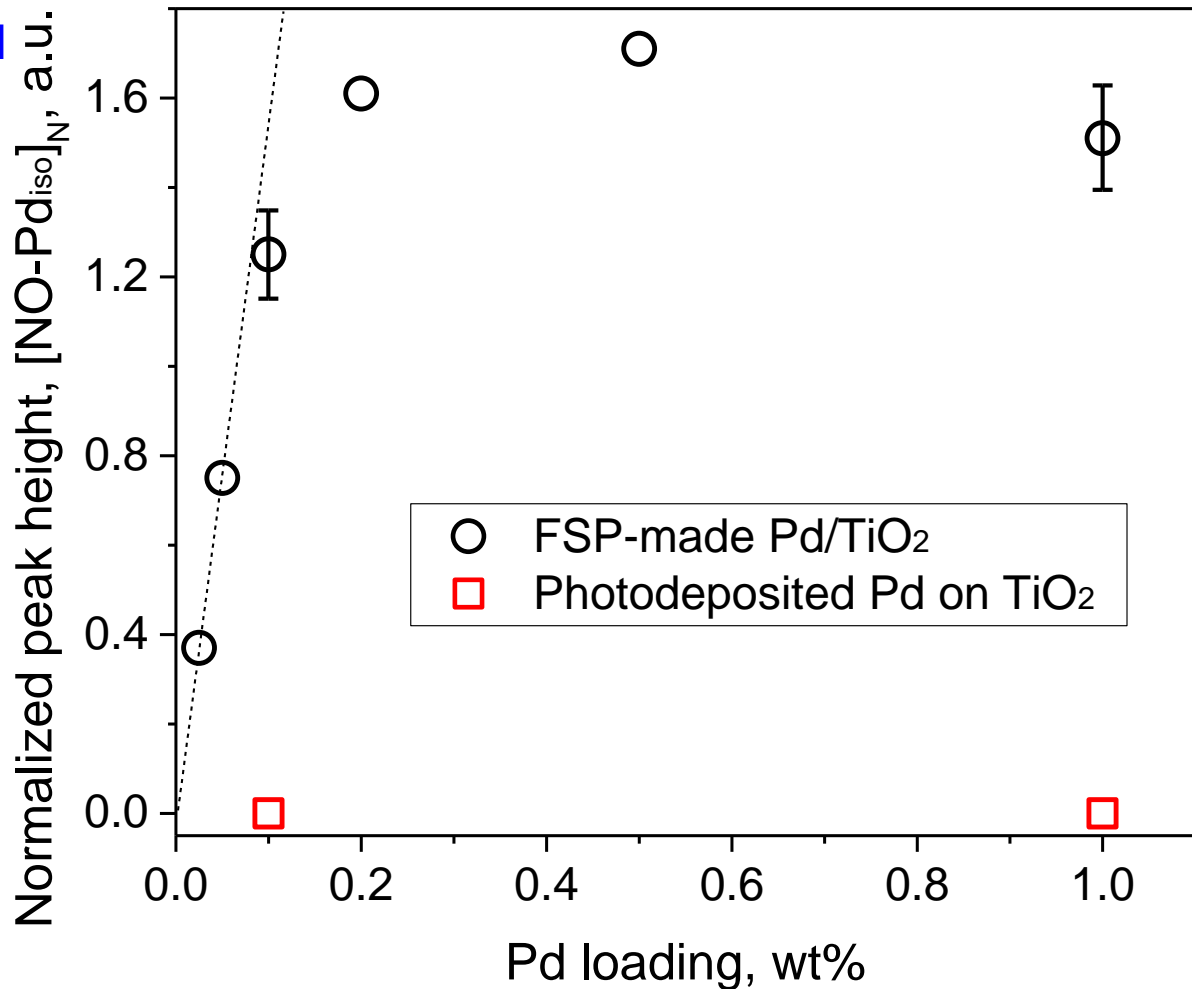
the peak height of normalized  
 NO adsorption on isolated Pd  
 sites  $[\text{NO-Pd}_{\text{iso}}]$  is **NOT linearly**  
 proportional to  $[\text{Pd}]$



10-fold increase  $[\text{Pd}]$  → only a 25 % increase in  $[\text{NO-Pd}_{\text{iso}}]$  peak height!!

**Quantification of NO<sub>x</sub> removal  
by Pd atoms and clusters by  
DRIFTS and inclusion of  
BaSO<sub>4</sub> as internal standard**

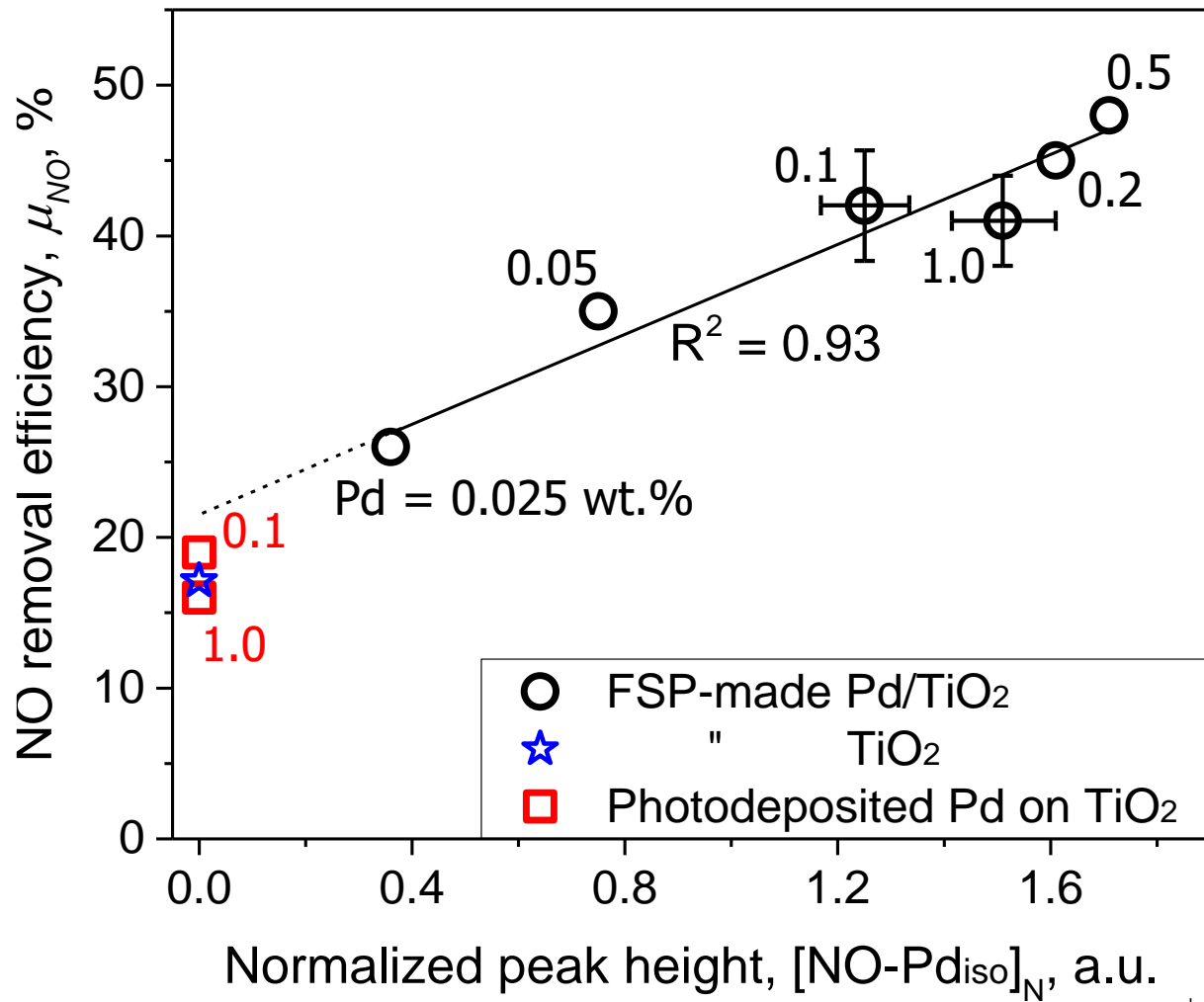
TiO<sub>2</sub> containing 0.1 wt% of  
Pd with 50 wt.% of BaSO<sub>4</sub>  
and 20 min exposure to  
2000 ppm NO



# So what?

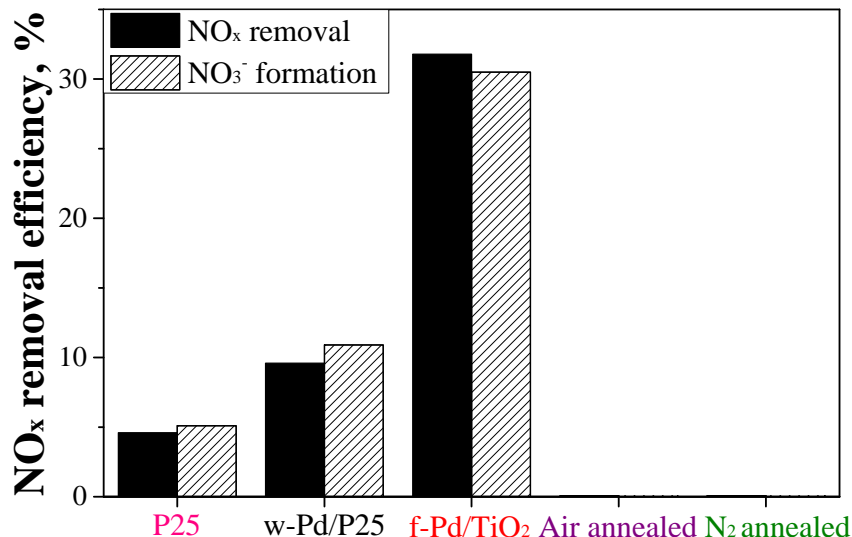
isolated Pd atoms on  $\text{TiO}_2$  are the DOMINANT active sites as co-catalyst for photocatalytic  $\text{NO}_x$  removal similar to WGS rxn<sup>1</sup>.

Fu Q, Saltsburg H, Flytzani-Stephanopoulos M. *Science*. 2003;301(5635):935-938.

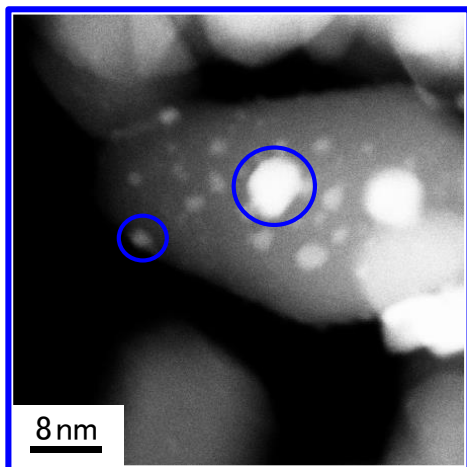


# Conclusions

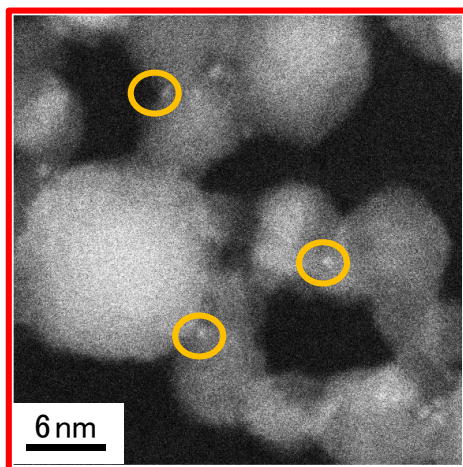
- Closely-sized sub-nano Pd on  $\text{TiO}_2$  is produced by scalable flame aerosol technology.
- Subnano Pd on  $\text{TiO}_2$  is stable up to 600 °C in air.
- Pd atoms on  $\text{TiO}_2$  most active for solar light  $\text{NO}_x$  removal than Pd clusters & nanoparticles



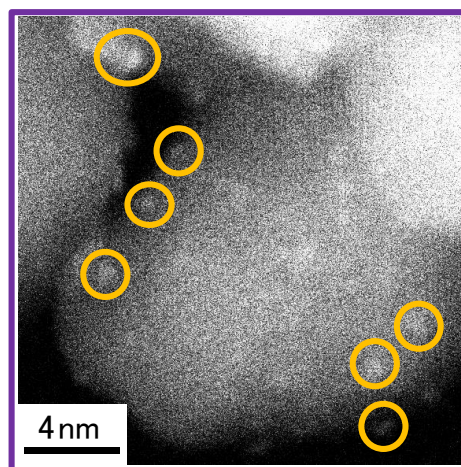
P25 w-Pd/P25 f-Pd/ $\text{TiO}_2$  Air annealed  $\text{N}_2$  annealed



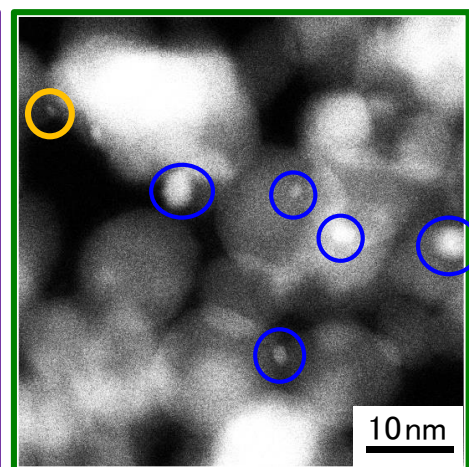
w-Pd/P25



f-Pd/ $\text{TiO}_2$



air at 600 °C



$\text{N}_2$  at 400 °C | 24



# Thank you for listening!



**Aletsch Glacier, Fieschalp → Riederalp → suspension bridge → Belalp *Switzerland***  
*August 25-26, 2016*