Crotonaldehyde Formation from Decomposition of ICH₂CH₂OH on Powdered TiO₂

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Adsorption and reactions of 2-iodoethanol on TiO_2 have been studied by Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy. ICH_2CH_2OH possesses two reactive centers of C-I and C-OH. It is found that its decomposition leads to the formation of crotonaldehyde on TiO_2 . A reaction sequence of $ICH_2CH_2OH \rightarrow ICH_2CH_2O- \rightarrow CH_3CHO \rightarrow CH_3CH=CH-CHO$ is proposed. Although the decomposition routes of C_2H_5OH and C_2H_5I , both forming C_2H_5O- on TiO_2 , suggest that $-OCH_2CH_2O-$ may play a role in the crotonaldehyde formation, reaction of $HOCH_2CH_2OH$ on TiO_2 shows that this is not the case. Adsorbed H_2O is formed in the ICH_2-CH_2OH decomposition on TiO_2 ; however, it is found that $ICH=CH_2$, possibly generated by ICH_2CH_2OH dehydration, is not important in the crotonaldehyde formation.

Introduction

The interaction between alkyl halides and metal (or oxidesupported metal) surfaces has been extensively studied in catalysis, because alkyl halides are useful precursors to generate adsorbed alkyl groups. Our previous study has shown that ethyl iodide molecules dissociate on TiO₂ below 200 °C, forming ethoxide groups due to C-I bond scission and chemical attachment of the ethyls to TiO₂ surface oxygen atoms.¹ Studies of adsorption and reactions of alcohols on TiO2 are of interest in understanding the surface bonding and reaction steps in the TiO₂ formation by chemical vapor deposition using titanium alkoxides as precursors and in hydrocarbon oxidation. It has been shown that, on TiO₂, ethanol decomposes to form surface ethoxide groups at 35 °C, but the evolution of gaseous products occurs at a temperature higher than 200 °C.1-3 Organic functional groups are generally the reactive centers; however, studies of adsorption and reactions of molecules with multiple functional groups on metal and metal oxide surfaces are scarce. In this research, the ICH₂CH₂OH molecule studied possesses two reactive centers of -CH₂OH and -CH₂I. Compared to the cases of C₂H₅OH and C₂H₅I, there are several intriguing points in the reactions of ICH₂CH₂OH on TiO₂, including dissociation kinetics of the COH and CI groups and types of surface intermediates and products generated. Besides, TiO₂ is a widely used photocatalyst. It is essential to study the adsorption and thermal decomposition of ICH₂CH₂OH prior to photochemical reactions. It is found that ICH₂CH₂OH decomposes on TiO₂ to form crotonaldehyde (CH₃-CH=CH-CH=O), which can also be generated by condensation of two acetaldehyde molecules on TiO2. However, no crotonaldehyde is generated from HOCH₂CH₂OH or ICH=CH₂ decomposition on TiO₂. Because of the limitation in the time-scale of FTIR spectroscopy used in this study, no reaction kinetics is investigated.

Experimental Section

The sample preparation of TiO_2 powder supported on a tungsten fine mesh (\sim 6 cm²) has been described previously.^{4,5} In brief, TiO_2 powder (Degussa P25, \sim 50 m²/g, anatase 70%,

rutile 30%) was dispersed in a water/acetone solution to form a uniform mixture which was then sprayed onto a tungsten mesh. After that, the TiO₂ sample was mounted inside an IR cell with two CaF₂ windows for IR transmission down to 1000 cm⁻¹. The TiO₂ sample in the cell was heated to 450 °C under vacuum for 24 h by resistive heating. The temperature of the TiO₂ sample was measured by a K-type thermocouple spot-welded on the tungsten mesh. Before each run of the experiment, the TiO₂ sample was heated to 450 °C in a vacuum for 2 h. After the heating, 10 Torr of O₂ was introduced into the cell as the sample was cooled to 70 °C. When the TiO₂ temperature reached 35 °C, the cell was evacuated for gas dosing. ICH₂CH₂OH (99%, Aldrich), ICH=CH2 (90%, Oakwood), CH3CH=CH-CHO (99%, Merck), CH₃CHO (99%, Merck), and HOCH₂CH₂OH (99.97%, Tedia) were purified by several cycles of freezepump—thaw prior to introduction into the cell. Infrared spectra were obtained with a 4-cm⁻¹ resolution by a Bruker FTIR spectrometer with a MCT detector. The spectra presented here have been ratioed against a clean TiO2 spectrum providing the metal-oxide background.

Results and Discussion

Adsorption of ICH₂CH₂OH on TiO₂. Figure 1 shows the infrared spectra of a TiO₂ surface exposed to the saturated vapor of ICH2CH2OH at 35 °C, followed by evacuation at this temperature, 50, 100, 150, 200, and 250 °C for 1 min. In the 35 °C spectrum, the infrared peaks appear at 1019, 1066, 1102, 1168, 1185, 1264, 1361, 1382, 1416, 1426, 1456, 1620, 2861, 2925, 2962, and 3018 cm⁻¹. These bands are listed in Table 1 and compared to those of ICH2CH2OH observed in the liquid state⁶ and in argon.⁷ It has been reported that C₂H₅OH and C₂H₅O – are coadsorbed on TiO₂ after a TiO₂ surface is exposed to C₂H₅OH vapor at 35 °C.^{1,2} However, C₂H₅I remains intact on TiO₂ at this temperature. In Figure 1, the broad feature at 1620 cm⁻¹ indicates the formation of adsorbed H₂O, which is detected in the dissociative adsorption of C₂H₅OH on TiO₂ as well,² showing the evidence of -COH dissociation of ICH₂-CH₂OH on TiO₂ at 35 °C. In terms of the observation of H₂O formation and the previous studies of C₂H₅OH and C₂H₅I on TiO₂, it is expected that the surface intermediate ICH₂CH₂Ois generated from decomposition of ICH2CH2OH on TiO2 at

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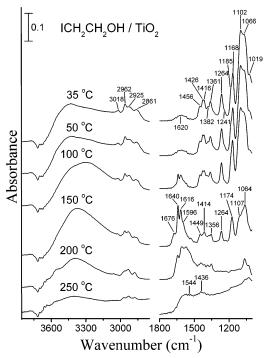


Figure 1. Infrared spectra of a TiO₂ surface taken after being in contact with the saturated vapor of ICH₂CH₂OH at 35 °C, followed by evacuation at this temperature to remove gaseous molecules and then heating at 50, 100, 150, 200, and 250 °C for 1 min in a vacuum. All of the spectra were measured at 35 °C with 50 scans.

TABLE 1: Comparison of Infrared Frequencies (cm⁻¹) of ICH₂CH₂OH in the Liquid State, in Argon, and on TiO₂

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	liquid ^a	in $argon^b$	on TiO ₂ , 35 °C (this work)	$mode^{c,d}$
	3532	3590		ν(OH)
	3360			
		3022	3018	$\nu(\mathrm{CH_2})$
	2958	2969	2962	$\nu(\mathrm{CH}_2)$
	2930	2939	2925	$\nu(CH_2)$
	2866	2888	2861	$\nu(\mathrm{CH}_2)$
	1463			
	1457	1459	1456	$\delta(CH_2)$
	1426		1426	
	1415	1418	1416	$\delta(CH_2)$
		1388	1382	$\omega(CH_2)$
	1373	1374	1361	δ (COH), tw(CH ₂)
		1352		$\omega(\mathrm{CH}_2)$
	1265		1264	
	1241	1236	1241	tw(CH ₂)
	1182		1185	
	1169	1150	1168	tw(CH ₂)
	1074	1072	1102	ν (CO), ν (C-C), δ (COH)
	1033		1066	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	1014		1019	

^a Ref 6. ^b Ref 7. ^c Ref 8. ^d ν : stretching; δ: deformation; ω : wagging; tw: twisting.

35 °C and is coadsorbed with ICH₂CH₂OH molecules. Because of the integrity of the ICH₂CH₂O moiety, ICH₂CH₂O— should have infrared bands similar to those of ICH₂CH₂OH, as shown in Table 1. In the 35 °C spectrum, the negative bands between 3600 and 3800 cm⁻¹ show the decrease of isolated surface OH groups upon ICH₂CH₂OH adsorption on the surface. The broad, enhanced absorptions between 3100 and 3600 cm⁻¹ indicate the formation of a hydrogen-bonding system. After heating the surface to 100 °C, two new peaks appear at 1616 and 1640 cm⁻¹. These two peaks continue to grow at 150 °C, accompanied by two shoulders at 1596 and 1676 cm⁻¹. Meanwhile, the peaks belonging to ICH₂CH₂OH and/or ICH₂CH₂O— decrease in intensity significantly. Besides these changes, the hydrogen-bonding absorptions between 3100 and 3600 cm⁻¹ are largely

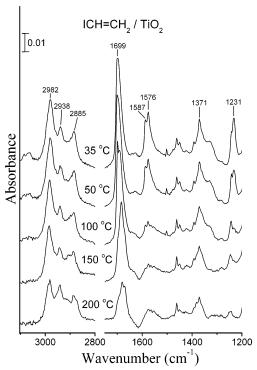


Figure 2. Infrared spectra of a TiO₂ surface taken after being in contact with 2 Torr ICH=CH₂ at 35 °C, followed by evacuation at this temperature to remove gaseous molecules and then heating at 50, 100, 150, and 200 °C for 1 min in a vacuum. All of the spectra were measured at 35 °C with 50 scans.

increased. This result indicates the increase of associated surface OH groups, possibly generated from C-H dissociation of ICH₂-CH₂OH and/or ICH₂CH₂O- on TiO₂. Because the surface temperature was raised in a vacuum, the appearance of the new peaks and the diminished intensities of ICH₂CH₂OH and/or ICH₂CH₂O- signify a chemical transformation of surface species, instead of readsorption of gaseous reaction products. The peaks from 1596 to 1676 cm⁻¹ can be attributed to stretching vibrations of C=C and/or C=O groups.

Adsorption of ICH=CH₂ on TiO₂. Figure 2 shows the infrared spectra of a TiO₂ surface exposed to 2 Torr ICH=CH₂ at 35 °C, followed by evacuation at this temperature, 50, 100, 150 °C. The purpose of this experiment is to demonstrate that ICH=CH₂ is not generated in the decomposition of ICH₂CH₂-OH on the TiO₂, although the H₂O band (1620 cm⁻¹) observed in the 35 and 50 °C spectra of Figure 1 may suggest the reaction $ICH_2CH_2OH \rightarrow ICH=CH_2 + H_2O$, and the 1616 and 1640 cm⁻¹ bands observed in the 100 and 150 °C spectra indicate that the responsible species may possess C=C functional groups. In the 35 °C spectrum of Figure 2, the main infrared bands appear at 1231, 1371, 1576, 1699, 2885, 2938, and 2982 cm⁻¹. The 1231, 1371, 1576, and 1587 cm⁻¹ bands correspond well with those of ICH=CH₂ reported previously and are attributed to the C-H bending, CH₂ bending, and C=C stretching vibrations of adsorbed ICH=CH₂, respectively. 9-11 The 1587 cm⁻¹ band is close to the C=C stretching frequency of ICH=CH₂ in argon; however, the 1576 cm⁻¹ band is red-shifted by \sim 24 cm⁻¹. The latter case is probably due to the interaction of C=C with surface OH or Ti4+. In the 35 °C spectrum of Figure 1, no peaks at 1231 and 1576 cm⁻¹ are observed for ICH=CH₂. In addition, the characteristic ICH=CH2 bands at 1231 and 1576 cm⁻¹ disappear after heating the surface to 200 °C in a vacuum, without generating 1616 and 1640 cm⁻¹ strong bands. This result also reveals that ICH=CH₂ is not stable on TiO₂ at 150 °C and is not the species responsible for the 1616 and 1640 cm⁻¹ bands.

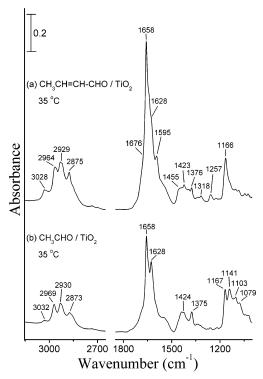


Figure 3. (a) Infrared spectrum of a TiO₂ surface exposed to 2 Torr crotonaldehyde, followed by evacuation at 35 °C; (b) Infrared spectrum of a TiO₂ surface exposed to 2 Torr acetaldehyde, followed by evacuation at 35 °C. All of the spectra were taken at 35 °C with 50

In Figure 2, the presence of peaks other than those belonging to ICH=CH₂ shows the decomposition of ICH=CH₂ on TiO₂. For example, the 1699 cm⁻¹ band suggests the formation of carbonyl groups. Further studies are needed for product identification.

Adsorption of CH₃CHCHCHO and CH₃CHO on TiO₂. Figure 3a shows the infrared spectrum of a TiO₂ surface exposed to 2 Torr crotonaldehyde, followed by evacuation at 35 °C. Adsorption of stable crotonaldehyde molecules on anatase and rutile TiO₂ surfaces at 40 °C has been reported. 12 On anatase TiO₂, infrared bands of crotonaldehyde are located at 1105, 1165, 1394, 1425, 1577, 1636, 1686, 2745, 2845, 2920, 2954, 2979, and 3038 cm^{-1} , similar to the bands of 1098, 1151, 1401, 1425, 1559, 1605, 1664, 2831, 2907, 2952, and 3036 cm⁻¹ observed on rutile TiO2.12 In both cases, the C=O stretching band (1686 and 1664 cm⁻¹ for anatase and rutile, respectively) has the strongest intensity, with the C=C one (1636 cm⁻¹ for anatase and 1605 cm⁻¹ for rutile) as a shoulder. Note that the C=C and C=O stretching modes of the adsorbed crotonaldehyde are significantly perturbed. The C=C and C=O stretching frequencies of gaseous crotonaldehyde are 1649 and 1720 cm⁻¹, respectively.12

In Figure 3a, the infrared bands appear at 1166, 1257, 1318, 1376, 1423, 1455, 1595, 1628, 1658, 1676, 2875, 2929, 2964, and 3028 cm⁻¹. The bands between 1000 and 1700 cm⁻¹ are very similar to those of crotonaldehyde on Degussa-P25 TiO₂ loaded with 2 or 5 wt % Cu in terms of the band positions and their relative intensities. 13 Crotonaldehyde on TiO₂ can also be generated by acetaldehyde adsorption. Figure 3b shows the infrared spectrum of a TiO2 surface exposed to 2 Torr acetaldehyde, followed by evacuation at 35 °C. Clearly, the bands at 1167, 1375, 1424, 1628, and 1658 cm⁻¹ signify the appearance of crotonaldehyde. Note that, on anatase and rutile TiO₂ surfaces, the infrared bands of adsorbed acetaldehyde

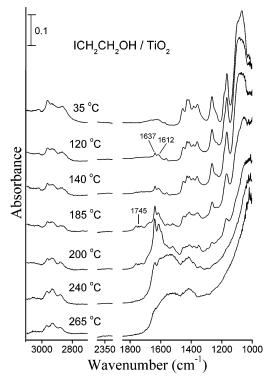


Figure 4. Infrared spectra taken in the heating course of TiO₂ initially in the saturated vapor of ICH2CH2OH in a closed cell at 35 °C. The heating rate was 2 $^{\circ}\text{C/s}.$ The spectra were taken at the temperatures indicated with 5 scans.

appear at \sim 1355 and \sim 1720 cm⁻¹. ¹² In the 150 °C spectrum of Figure 1, the absorption feature from 1596 to 1676 cm⁻¹ well matches that of crotonaldehyde generated by direct crotonaldehyde adsorption or by condensation of two acetaldehyde molecules on TiO2, as shown in Figure 3, parts a and b. In addition to the similarity of these C=C and C=O peaks, the relatively intense 1174 cm⁻¹ peak in the 150 °C spectrum of Figure 1 also strongly supports the formation of crotonaldehyde from ICH2CH2OH decomposition on TiO2. Another strong peak in this spectrum is the 1064 cm⁻¹ band which is more intense than the 1107 cm⁻¹ peak of ICH₂CH₂OH and/or ICH₂CH₂O-, suggesting formation of other products different from crotonaldehyde. As the surface is further increased to 200 °C, the amount of crotonaldehyde decreases largely, as evidenced by the smaller 1640 cm⁻¹ peak in Figure 1. In the 250 °C spectrum, two broad absorptions at 1436 and 1544 cm⁻¹ are detected. It has been reported that crotonate (CH₃CH=CH-COO-), which is generated from crotonaldehyde decomposition on Cu/TiO₂, has two broad peaks at 1422 and 1518 cm⁻¹. ¹³ In Figure 3a, the C=C and C=O stretching frequencies appear at 1595, 1628, 1658, and 1676 cm⁻¹. According to the previous study of crotonaldehyde on anatase and rutile TiO₂, ¹² the 1595 and 1628 cm⁻¹ bands can be assigned to the C=C modes of crotonaldehyde on rutile and anatase TiO2 surfaces, respectively, and the 1658 and 1676 cm⁻¹ to C=O modes of crotonaldehyde on rutile and anatase TiO2 surfaces, respectively. In the case of crotonaldehyde generated from ICH2CH2OH decomposition (150 °C spectrum, Figure 1), the C=C and C=O stretching modes appear at 1596, 1616, 1640, and 1676 cm⁻¹. On the basis of the infrared frequencies and relative peak intensities, the 1596 and 1616 are assigned to the C=C stretching modes and 1640 and 1676 cm⁻¹ to C=O stretching ones. Compared to those of gaseous crotonaldehyde, the C=C and C=O frequencies of the adsorbed crotonaldehyde are significantly red-shifted. This may be due to the interaction of these functional groups with surface

-OCH₂CH₂O--OCH2CH2O--OCH₂CH₂O-HOCH₂CH₂OH K₂[OCH₂- $CH_2O]^a$ $/Mo(100)^{l}$ $/O/Ag(100)^{\alpha}$ $/O/Cu(100)^{d}$ TiO2, 100 °C (this work) mode^e 858 883 890 m 880 m 1031 1041 $\rho(CH_2)$ 1093 1090 s1090 s 1089 $\nu(C-O)$ 1118 tw(CH₂) $tw(CH_2) + \nu(C-C)$ 1220 1290 $\omega(CH_2)$ 1340 w 1354 1370 $\omega(CH_2)$ 1455 1450 w 1446 1445 $\delta(CH_2)$ 2859 2833 2857 2860 m $\nu(CH_2)$ 2899 2880 m 2892 2927 $\nu(CH_2)$

TABLE 2: Comparison of the Infrared Bands (cm⁻¹) of Cyclic Ethylenedioxy (-OCH₂CH₂O-)

^a Ref 16. ^b Ref 17. ^c Ref 15. ^d Ref 18. ^e w: weak; m: medium; s: strong; ν: stretching; δ: deformation; ω: wagging; tw: twisting; ρ: rocking.

OH or Ti⁴⁺. ¹² Besides, the frequencies may also be affected by coadsorbed species, such as iodine which is generated from ICH₂CH₂OH decomposition.

Reaction of ICH₂CH₂OH on TiO₂. Figure 4 shows the infrared spectra taken in the heating course of TiO₂ initially in the saturated vapor of ICH₂CH₂OH in a closed cell. Adsorbed crotonaldehyde is detected at 120 °C, as revealed by the appearance of 1612 and 1637 cm⁻¹ peaks. Gaseous acetaldehyde is also generated, with the representative peak located at 1745 cm⁻¹. This acetaldehyde peak starts to appear between 120 and 140 °C. The detection of acetaldehyde in the gas phase is determined by its amount in the infrared cell, the length of the cell, and the acetaldehyde infrared absorption coefficient.

The acetaldehyde from ICH₂CH₂OH decomposition may recombine to generate crotonaldehyde immediately after formation on the surface and/or readsorb and react on the surface after desorption. Taken together with the result of Figure 3b showing the crotonaldehyde formation of acetaldehyde condensation at 35 °C, it strongly suggests that the ICH₂CH₂OH decomposition on TiO₂ to form crotonaldehyde is via acetal-dehyde.

Adsorption of HOCH2CH2OH on TiO2. To further elucidate the crotonaldehyde formation mechanism, adsorption of HOCH₂-CH₂OH on TiO₂ was investigated. Figure 5 shows the infrared spectrum for a TiO₂ surface exposed to the saturated vapor of HOCH₂CH₂OH at 35 °C, followed by evacuation at this temperature, 50, 100, and 150 °C for 1 min. Adsorption of HOCH₂CH₂OH on TiO₂ at 35 °C yields absorption bands at 1054, 1086, 1135, 1220, 1354, 1377, 1449, 1620, 2854, 2887, and 2930 cm⁻¹. Dissociative adsorption of simple alcohol molecules, such as methanol and ethanol, on TiO2 are found to generate the corresponding alkoxy species on the surface. 1-3 In Figure 5, the appearance of an adsorbed water band at 1620 cm⁻¹ reveals COH dissociation, which is further supported by the strong bands at 1054, 1086, and 1135 cm^{-1} due to C-O stretching vibrations. The C-O stretching frequencies of liquid HOCH₂CH₂OH molecules appear at 1038 and 1087 cm⁻¹.¹⁵ Both methoxy and ethoxy on TiO₂ have a strong absorption at \sim 1125 cm⁻¹. The presence of the 1135 cm⁻¹ band indicates dissociation of COH groups of HOCH₂CH₂OH. After heating the surface to 100 °C, the infrared absorptions at 1089 and 2859 cm⁻¹ are largely enhanced. These two bands remain approximately the same at 150 °C, in contrast to the reduced 1620 cm⁻¹ band due to water desorption. Surface cyclic ethylenedioxy from ethylene glycol decomposition has been isolated on oxygen-covered Ag(110) (O/Ag(110)) and Cu(100) (O/Cu-(100)), with the two strongest bands at 1090 and 2860 cm⁻¹ for the former surface and at 1090 and 2880 cm⁻¹ for the latter one. It is not surprising to observe the same species on TiO₂.

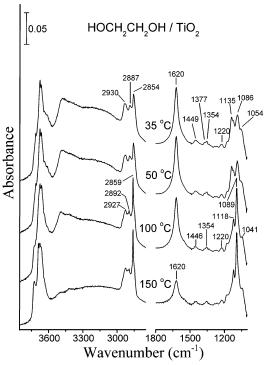
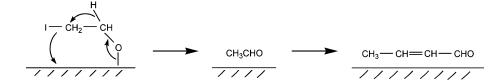


Figure 5. Infrared spectra of a TiO₂ surface taken after being in contact with the saturated vapor of HOCH₂CH₂OH at 35 °C, followed by evacuation at this temperature to remove gaseous molecules and then heating at 50, 100, and 150 °C for 1 min in a vacuum. All of the spectra were measured at 35 °C with 50 scans.

Table 2 compares the infrared bands observed in the 100 °C spectrum to those of $K_2[OCH_2CH_2O]$, $-OCH_2CH_2O-/Mo(100)$, $-OCH_2CH_2O-/O/Ag(110)$, and $-OCH_2CH_2O-/O/Cu(100)$. The 1064 cm⁻¹ peak observed in the 150 and 200 °C spectra of Figure 1 is likely due to $-OCH_2CH_2O-$ species. Most importantly, no crotonadehyde is generated from $HOCH_2CH_2-$ OH decomposition on TiO_2 .

Scheme 1 shows a possible ICH₂CH₂OH reaction sequence for the crotonaldehyde formation on TiO₂. On TiO₂, C₂H₅OH decomposes at 35 °C to form C₂H₅O—, in contrast to C₂H₅I dissociation (>100 °C), also forming C₂H₅O—.^{1,2} Therefore, it is suggested that crotonaldehyde is generated from decomposition of ICH₂CH₂O—. Although —OCH₂CH₂O— can be generated from ICH₂CH₂OH decomposition by bond breakage of C—I and O—H, the HOCH₂CH₂OH adsorption study of Figure 5 shows that —OCH₂CH₂O— cannot produce crotonaldehyde on TiO₂. Because acetaldehyde molecules readily condense to produce crotonaldehyde on TiO₂ at 35 °C (Figure 3b) and is detected in the ICH₂CH₂OH reaction over TiO₂ (Figure 4), it is

SCHEME 1



proposed that crotonaldehyde is generated as ICH2CH2Odecomposes to form acetaldehyde as an intermediate. Condensation of two acetaldehyde molecules, forming crotonaldehyde, also leads to the enhanced absorptions between 3100 and 3600 cm⁻¹ due to the increase of hydrogen-bonded surface OH groups, as shown in the 100 and 150 °C spectra of Figure 1. This study of ICH₂CH₂OH on TiO₂ shows an interesting result forming crotonaldehyde, not through -OCH₂CH₂O- as suggested by the individual -CH₂OH and -CH₂I decomposition chemistry. In the present study, it is difficult to address the thermal stability of adsorbed iodine by FTIR, since the vibrational frequency of I(a) is far below our detection limit of 1000 cm⁻¹. But the study of CH₃I decomposition on the TiO₂-(100) surface has shown that $I_{(a)}$ is stable up to \sim 300 °C, as evidenced by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy.¹⁹

Summary

ICH₂CH₂OH decomposes on TiO₂ to form crotonaldehyde. This product is proposed to result from condensation of two acetaldehyde, accompanied by the increase of hydrogen-bonded surface hydroxy groups. On the basis of the bond dissociation temperature of C-I in C₂H₅I and O-H in C₂H₅OH, acetaldehyde is proposed to be generated from ICH₂CH₂O – reaction. In addition, dissociative adsorption of HOCH₂CH₂OH does not produce crotonaldehyde that excludes the role of -OCH₂-CH₂O – in the crotonaldehyde formation.

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