Effects of heat treatment and electrode materials on H_2 sensitivity in anodized TiO_2 films

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Abstract

The highly sensitive H_2 sensor was fabricated by an anodic oxidation of titanium metal. The effect of electrode materials and subsequent heat treatment on the sensing performance was investigated. The resistance changes were measured during the exposure of sensor to 1% H_2 balanced by N_2 . The sensitivity, defined by R_o/R_g (the ratio of resistance in balance gas to that in gas) was more than 10^5 and the response time is less than 15 seconds.

The sensor with a palladium electrode had an excellent sensing property regardless of the heat treatment. However, in the sensor with a platinum electrode, the sensitivity depended strongly on the temperature of heat treatment. Sensing mechanism will be discussed.