

TiO₂ Film Deposition on Silica Gel Powders using Plasma Enhanced Chemical Vapor Deposition and Sol-Gel Method

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A circulating fluidized bed (CFB) reactor is a very useful tool for uniform deposition of well-adherent materials on supporting materials. TiO₂ film deposition on silica gel powders (100 μm) by the Plasma Enhanced Chemical Vapor Deposition (PECVD) method at atmospheric pressure has been studied in a CFB reactor (18 mm-ID × 1000 mm-high) without any post treatment. TiO₂ films from precursor Ti(O-i-C₃H₇)₄ (TTIP, 98%) were deposited on silica gel powders by using oxygen as a reaction gas. The effects of plasma power, oxygen concentration and argon concentration on deposition of TiO₂ thin films have been determined in a CFB reactor. TiO₂-deposited powders by PECVD were compared with those by the sol-gel method. The deposited thin films were characterized by the X-ray diffraction spectra, Raman spectroscopy, SEM and BET analyses. The BET data of TiO₂-deposited silica gel by the PECVD exhibits larger specific surface area (482.13 m²/g) than that of the sol-gel method (429.67 m²/g). Also, TiO₂ thin films are deposited uniformly by the PECVD on the external surface of the silica gel.