

Gas-Sensing Properties of Tin Oxide-Based Volatile Organic Compound Sensors for Total Volatile Organic Compound Gases

Toshio Itoh*, Ichiro Matsubara, Masahiro Kadosaki¹,
Yuichi Sakai¹, Woosuck Shin, Noriya Izu and Maiko Nishibori

National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST),
Shimo-Shidami, Moriyama-ku, Nagoya 463-8560, Japan

¹Toyama Industrial Technology Center, 383 Takada, Toyama 930-0866, Japan

(Received January 15, 2009; accepted May 16, 2009)

Key words: gas sensor, tin oxide, volatile organic compound (VOC), total volatile organic compound (T-VOC), T-VOC test gas

This study is an investigation on the total volatile organic compound (T-VOC) gas-sensing properties of platinum-added tin oxide (Pt/SnO₂) thick films. We have prepared a T-VOC test gas on the basis of analytical data of the actual indoor air condition of Japanese residences. The T-VOC test gas has 16 components, which belong to 6 groups, namely, aldehydes, aliphatic compounds, aromatic compounds, terpenes, esters, and alcohols. Pt/SnO₂ possesses a good potential for T-VOC gas detection. We discuss the contribution ratios of each group in the T-VOC test gas for the sensor response of the Pt/SnO₂ thick films. The responses of the Pt/SnO₂ thick film are not dominated by parts of the groups, but depend on all the groups in the T-VOC test gas.

*Corresponding author: e-mail: itoh-toshio@aist.go.jp