

## **Vita**

Yan Xi

The author, Yan Xi, was born in Dalian, China in 1979. After the completion of her B.S. degree in chemical engineering at Dalian University of Technology in 2002, she entered the graduate program in chemical engineering at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA. Shortly thereafter, she joined the Environmental Catalysis and Nanomaterials Laboratory headed by Dr. S. Ted Oyama for her M. S. degree.