# 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Society of Electrochemistry

4 - 9 August 2019 Durban, South Africa

Electrochemistry: Linking Resources to Sustainable Development





http://annual70.ise-online.org e-mail: events@ise-online.org

## Symposium 3b Fuel Cells, Biofuel Cells and Electrolyzers

## Room : 11-CD

Chaired by : Aleksey Yaremchenko

## 09:30 to 09:50

Aleksey Yaremchenko (Department of Materials and Ceramic Engineering, CICECO - Aveiro Institute of Materials, University of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal), Blanca Arias-Serrano, Kiryl Zakharchuk, Jorge Frade

Composite LnNiO3+PrOx Oxygen Electrodes for Solid Oxide Cells

## 09:50 to 10:10

**Chusheng Chen** (Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China)

Solid oxide electrochemical cells supported on the air electrode with large straight open pores and catalystcoated surfaces

## 10:10 to 10:30

**Csaba Janaky** (*Department of Physical Chemistry and Materials Science, University of Szeged, Szeged, Hungary*), Dorottya Hursan, Angelika Samu

Carbon-dioxide Reduction on N-doped Carbon Electrodes: Structure-activity-stability Relationships.

### 10:30 to 10:50

Alexander Bagger (Department of Chemistry, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark), Jan Rossmeisl

The electrochemical CO<sub>2</sub> reduction reaction: Understanding the selectivity of the Cu catalyst.

#### 10:50 to 11:10 Coffee Break

# Symposium 4 Renewable Energy and Photo-Electrochemistry

## Room : 22-ABC

### Chaired by : Ladislav Kavan

## 09:30 to 09:50

David Fermin (School of Chemistry, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom), Devendra Tiwari Bismuth-based Solar Absorbers for Solar Energy Conversion

## 09:50 to 10:10

Siyabonga Beizel Mdluli (Chemistry, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa), Morongwa Emmanuel Ramoroka, Suru Vivian John, Emmanuel Iwuoha

Novel Core-Shell Electroresponsive 3-Dimensional Poly(*propylenethiophenoimine*)-co-Poly(3,4ethylenedioxythiophene) Dendritic Star Copolymers: Synthesis and Photophysical Properties

### 10:10 to 10:30

Hayelom Hiluf Tesfay (Chemistry, University of the Western cape, Cape Town, South Africa), Emmanuel Iwuoha

<u>Characteristics of Cu<sub>2</sub>Zn<sub>1-x</sub>FeSnS<sub>4</sub>Nano-crystalline Kesterite Material towards thin Film PV Cell</u> <u>Application.</u>

## 10:30 to 10:50

Kang Shi (Department of Chemistry, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China), Huiqin Hu, Liangliang Zhang, Yanzheng Xu

Photoelectrochemical Etching for Preparing Ultrasmooth Gallium Nitride Surface in Acidic Electrolyte

## 10:50 to 11:10

Coffee Break

## Composite LnNiO<sub>3</sub>+PrO<sub>x</sub> oxygen electrodes for solid oxide cells

Aleksey Yaremchenko, Blanca I. Arias-Serrano, Kiryl Zakharchuk, Jorge Frade

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 $Ln_2NiO_{4+\delta}$  and its derivatives with perovskite-related  $K_2NiF_4$ -type structure demonstrate high mixed ionic-electronic conductivity, moderate thermal and negligible chemical expansion. As a result, these phases attracted significant attention as prospective cathode materials for intermediate-temperature solid oxide fuel cells (IT-SOFC). At the same time, perovskite-like  $LnNiO_3$  has not been considered for these applications, mostly due to the limited phase stability under ambient oxygen pressures. On heating in air,  $LaNiO_3$  decomposes at ~ 1000°C; cathodic polarization can be expected to induce the decomposition of perovskite phase at lower temperatures characteristic for IT-SOFC operation. On the contrary, redox changes imposed by anodic polarization (in solid oxide electrolysis cell mode) under oxidizing conditions should not be of risk for the phase stability of LaNiO<sub>3</sub>. The goal of the present work was the evaluation of LnNiO<sub>3</sub>-based oxygen electrodes for solid oxide fuel/electrolysis cells.

The LnNiO<sub>3- $\delta$ </sub> ceramic powders with perovskite-like structure was prepared by glycine-nitrate combustion synthesis followed by calcinations in oxygen atmosphere at 800-1000°C. Porous ceramic samples for electrical and dilatometric studies were sintered in oxygen at 950-1050°C.

Porous LaNiO<sub>3- $\delta$ </sub> samples were found to exhibit favorably high *p*-type metallic-like electrical conductivity, 400-500 S/cm at 800-600°C in air. These ceramics demonstrated also a moderate thermal expansion, with average CTE ~ 13.0 ppm/K at 25-800°C, ensuring thermomechanical compatibility with solid electrolytes.

As a first step, the electrochemical performance of LaNiO<sub>3-δ</sub> electrodes was assessed in contact with three common electrolytes including  $(ZrO_2)_{0.92}(Y_2O_3)_{0.08}$  (8YSZ), Ce<sub>0.9</sub>Gd<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2-δ</sub> (CGO10) and  $(La_{0.8}Sr_{0.2})_{0.98}Ga_{0.8}Mg_{0.2}O_{3-\delta}$  (LSGM). The electrode layers were sintered at 1050°C for 2 h under oxygen flow. The studies of symmetrical cells by EIS demonstrated that the electrochemical activity of LaNiO<sub>3-δ</sub> electrodes increases in the sequence 8YSZ < CGO10 < LSGM; the corresponding values of electrode polarization resistance (R<sub>η</sub>) at 800°C were 1.4, 0.8 and 0.25 Ohm×cm2, respectively. Significant variations of R<sub>η</sub> with electrolyte composition correlate with the extent of chemical reactivity between LaNiO<sub>3-δ</sub> and electrolyte materials during the electrode fabrication.

The R<sub> $\eta$ </sub> values of LaNiO<sub>3- $\delta$ </sub> electrodes in contact with LSGM electrolyte were further reduced to 0.03 Ohm×cm2 at 800°C and 0.11 Ohm×cm2 at 700°C by the surface modification with PrO<sub>x</sub> which is known for its electrocatalytic activity. At 750°C and current density of 0.5 A/cm3, LaNiO<sub>3</sub>+PrO<sub>x</sub> (~20 wt.%) electrodes in contact with LSGM solid electrolyte demonstrate the overpotentials of ~60 mV under cathodic polarization and ~40 mV under anodic polarization (Fig.1).

The impact of substitution of lanthanum by praseodymium (in order to improve the chemical compatibility and electrochemical activity) on the relevant properties of  $LnNiO_3$  is briefly discussed.

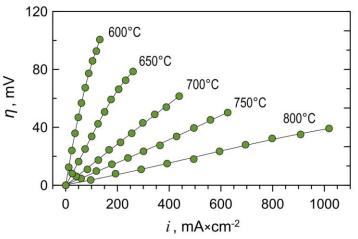


Figure 1. Anodic overpotentials of LaNiO<sub>3</sub>+PrO<sub>x</sub> (~20 wt.%) electrodes in contact with LSGM solid electrolyte in air.