Brookhaven National Laboratory Advanced Electrocatalysts

Fuel Cell Seminar, Los Angeles November 11, 2014

Alex Harris Chair, BNL Chemistry Department



a passion for discovery



BNL Overview

- Established 1947
- Location: Long Island, NY
- 2900 staff, 4000 annual users
- Core Capabilities
 - Primary mission in physical and energy sciences
 - And R&D in life and environmental sciences, energy technologies and national security



- Builds and operates major scientific facilities available to university, industry and government researchers
- Fuel Cell R&D: 5 Pls and co-Pls
 - Advanced electrocatalysts
 - Applications in fuel cells and electrolyzers.

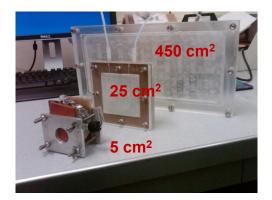


BNL Fuel Cell Capabilities

- Advanced electrocatalysts
 - Platinum monolayer core-shell electrocatalysts
 - Ultralow Pt content, high activity and durability.
- Pd Pd



- Tech-to-Market by licensing & cooperative development
- Membrane electrode assemblies
 - Novel electrodeposition fabrication methods
 - Incorporation of core-shell electrocatalysts



- Advanced Characterization
 - User facilities for characterization of materials and devices
 - Photon science (NSLS-II) and Nanoscience (CFN) capabilities

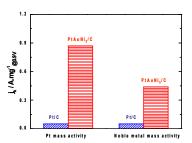


Core-shell electrocatalysts

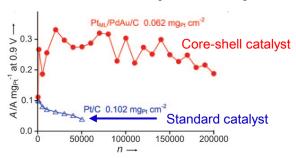
Pt monolayer shell – metal/alloy core Core tunes activity & durability of shell

Model and TEM image of a Pt Monolayer on Pd nanoparticle Pt

Pt-mass weighted activity enhanced 20x



Scale-up synthesis: Pt/Pd₉Au₁/C Fuel Cell durability 200,000 cycles

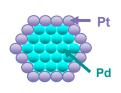


- Target applications
 - PEM fuel cell anode and cathode reactions
 - PEM electrolyzers for H₂ production
- Benefits decrease platinum content and cost, improve durability
- Electrocatalysts 14 issued US patents; >15 applications pending
- Cooperative research and development on scale-up and integration.
 - CRADA efforts with multiple partners in fuel cell applications
 - SBIR/STTR effort for electrolyzer application



Core-Shell Technology-to-Market

Electrocatalysts for oxygen reduction reaction (ORR)



Basic research 1992+

Electrocatalyst development 2002+

Fuel cell testing 2005+

First license 2011

DOE Office of Science

DOE EERE FCTO

Industrial CRADA

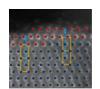


R&D 100 Award 2012



Electrocatalysts for hydrogen reactions (HER)

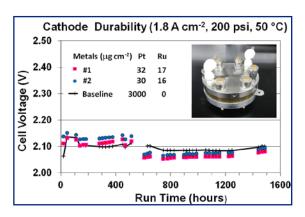




Basic research 2012+

PEM electrolyzer 2013+

DOE EERE SBIR/STTR



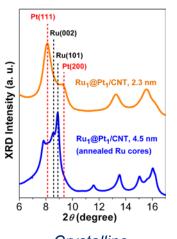


BNL Advanced Characterization User Facilities

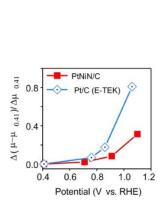
NSLS-II



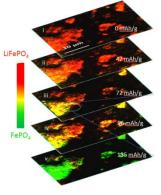
Structure, Spectroscopy & Imaging



Crystalline nanocatalyst structure



In situ – Pt shell oxidation state

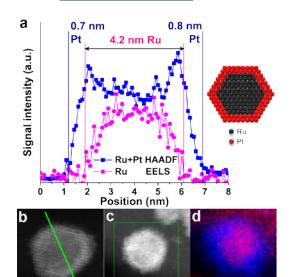


Microscale chemical mapping

CFN



Nanostructure





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