Designed Nanostructured Materials for Energy Conversion and Storage Devices

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Outline

- Motivation
- Soft-Hard Integrated Assembly
- Fuel Cells
- Solar Cell
- Lithium ion battery



Motivation

Energy and Environmental Concerns



Better Energy Conversion & Storage Devices

Lewis, Nathari, Forum, Scientific Challenges in Sustainable Energy Technolog Palo Ato Research Center, Paio Ato, California, 10 Feb. 2005. Synthesis of Mesoporous Silica Materials using Surfactant-Self-Assembly as Template Soft-template method





Kresge et al. *Nature* **1992**, 359, 710.

Toward Ordered Mesoporous Crystalline Transition Metal Oxides

•Non-siliceous mesoporous metal oxides (TiO₂, Nb₂O₅....) :Important for electrode materials and catalysis

•Many Research Groups have pursued after discovery of MCM-41 :Limited Success (Through Soft-Template Method)

•Structure collapse occurs during the crystallization of the walls and removal of soft-template

•Very recently, hard template was employed to make crystalline mesoporous metal oxides

Soft-template method



Hard template method



Tedious synthetic step



Bruce et al JACS 2006



PI-b-PEO synthesis





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1h 30 min





J. Lee et al 2007 Nature Materials revised version



J. Lee et al 2007 Nature Materials revised version

TEM images of Fully Crystalline Mesoporous Transition Metal Oxides



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Thermogravimetric Analysis





The Mesoporous Nb_2O_5 via conventional way has nearly amorphous walls

Nitrogen Sorption Experiment



The normally heat-treated sample under air at 700 °C : BET surface area ~0.2 m²/g

The mesopores was preserved even after heat-treatment at 1000 °C!!!



Fuel Cells



Issues with Current Electrode Materials

Carbon: Corrosion

Complicated synthetic method

♦ PtRu Alloy: Poisoning & low mass activity

Solution

Intermetallic Nanoparticles on Mesoporous Metal Oxides



The long Pt-Pt distance in intermetallic compounds precludes the adsorption of CO



J. Lee et al 2007, to be submitted

Small-Angle X-ray scattering of As-syn material



Short-range ordered hexagonal

Nanoparticles dispersed in Uniform Large Mesoporous TiO₂



Electrochemical testing of novel materials

3805



A high mass activity Much lower onset potential

CO stripping oxidation



Photovoltaics



Dye-sensitized solar cells



Current performance: n=11% O'Regan, B. & Grätzel, M. - *Nature 353*, 737-740 (**1991**)

Solid state dye-sensitized solar cell



Collaboration with Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge, UK

Cornell University USA Prof. Ulrich Wiesner





Prof. Ulrich Steiner

OE Group-Cambridge Prof. Sir Richard Friend





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Nanoscience Centre



Problem with Previous TiO₂

◆ Heat-treatment at low temperature: amorphous region still present



350 °C~450 °C for 30 minutes

Soft-template

Nano Lett 2005, 5, 1791

Recap Mesoporous TiO₂



J. Lee et al 2007 Nature Materials revised



Cross-section of mesoporous TiO₂



Dye sensitized solar-cell



✤ Light absorption in dye, electron transfer to TiO₂, hole transfer to Spiro-MeOTAD.



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Device results



Performance parameters

J-V data as a function of temperature annealing

	600°C	550°C	500°C	450°C
J _{sc}	2.0	2.54	1.09	0.71
(mAcm ²)				
$V_{oc}(V)$	0.81	0.76	0.70	0.65
η (%)	0.56	1.17	0.35	0.25
FF	0.35	0.61	0.46	0.54

As the temperature increased, the amorphous regions were converted to crystalline materials

Composition Variations



Results





Another approach: Patent application being written Performance under simulated sun light



Facile synthesis of well-organized crystalline TiO₂/carbon composites for use as anode in Lithium ion batteries















9.4x10⁻³ S/cm



154 m²/g, 0.3 cm³/g





Wall is composed of TiO_2 nanoparticles







Added small amount of conducting agent





Background

• Transition metal oxide/carbon composite materials have been synthesized to use as electrode materials

•Typical method to make carbon/transition metal oxide composite ⇒Loading of transition metal oxide in carbon materials

•To make homogeneously mixed nanocomposite of carbon and metal oxide, ordered mesoporous carbon was used



TEM of microphase separated As-syn composite



The dark part is titanium oxide part







Carbon content ~10 wt% from TGA under air





After removal of carbon



Pore size distribution



	BET surface area (m ² /g)
Carbon/TiO2	52
TiO2	115

PEO-b-PAN

:a structure-directing agent for *fully crystalline* mesoporous transition metal oxides



Broad Pattern

Magnetic Properties

• SQUID (Superconducting quantum interference device) data



10 wt% Magnetite NP (4nm)/IS53-143, annealed at 180°C for 48 hrs

Blocking temperature=13 K

 $\tau_m = \tau_o \exp(\frac{KV}{k_B T_B})$

Magnetite/PSPI Nanofibers exhibit superparamagnetic properties.

Hierarchical carbon nanofiber



Hollow graphite is known to be good electrode material

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Raman Spectroscopy



More Graphitic

Magnetically Separable Electrode Materials







Summary

 \bullet Highly crystalline mesoporous TiO₂ materials were successfully used as anode materials for high efficiency solid-state photovoltaics



◆ Intermetallic nanoparticles on mesoporous metal oxide were highly active fuel cell catalysts



♦ High efficiency solar cell electrode was fabircated using soft-hard integrated self-assembly