

Luise Theil Kuhn, Professor DTU Energy Head of Section (*Imaging and Structural Analysis*)

Power-to-X; Observing Energy Conversion Live







Multi-scale multi-modal in situ characterization



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Solid Oxide Electrochemical Cell (SOFC/SOEC)









(b) Short-term reduced state



(c) Long-term reduced state





(d) First re-oxidized state



Energy-resolved neutron imaging Bragg-edge imaging Total neutron

Total neutron cross section for different polycrystalline materials



Josic, L. et al (2011). Nucl. Instruments Methods Phys. Res. 651, 166.

Furnace for redox-cycling and neutron imaging



Parameters:

Temp. range: RT-1400K

RT outside the window

- Very fast heating and
- Atmosphere: any inert gas, hydrogen, air, oxygen...
- Normal pressure (controlled flow)
- Step motor for sample alignment and tomography

M. Makowska et al. Rev. Sci. Instrum. 86, 125109 (2015)

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In situ Bragg-edge imaging linking strain and NiO reduction in Solid Oxide Fuel/ Electrolysis Cell electrodes



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M. Makowska et al, J.Appl.Cryst. 48, 401(2015) M. Makowska et al, J. Appl. Cryst. 49, 1674 (2016)

Conclusions on Solid Oxide Electrochemical Cell electrode

- Reduction process in NiO-YSZ is accelerated by stress
- Accelerated creep occurs also during oxidation!
- Reduction takes place in the whole volume of the investigated material, while re-oxidation takes place easily at the surface (reduction is faster than re-oxidation) and slowly in the volume (clear "oxidation front" can be determined)
- Speed of deformation due to the accelerated creep depends on the corresponding chemical reaction rate
- Company decided for a change in design of their electrodes



M. Makowska et al, J. Power Sources 340, 167 (2017)

NiO

0.07

0.065

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Li-ion transport in a model battery cell In operando imaging and diffraction simultaneously



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Li-ion transport in a model battery cell In operando imaging and diffraction simultaneously

150





Li-ion transport in a model battery cell In operando imaging and diffraction simultaneously



M. Lacatusu et al, manuscript in preparation

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Hot topic: Na-ion batteries

Slice 533

Pristine Na-ion battery



After 500 charge-discharge cycles





Perspectives: Polarized neutron imaging of magnetic fields and current distributions

Link current distribution to Bragg-edge data in each pixel Link to diffraction in 3D Map in 3D



M. Lacatusu, PhD thesis, 2020

M. Sales et al, Scientific Reports, vol: 8, issue: 1, pages: 1-6, 2018



Energy-resolved neutron imaging and diffraction @ ESS: ODIN and BEER



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ESS will make possible:

Flux and timescale relevant for real operando studies aplying the low-intensity/contrast methods bringing us far beyond "nice images".

Observing energy conversion live.





Bragg-edge imaging 3D imaging and diffraction Phase contrast imaging Polarized imaging Simultaneously imaging with X-rays



Optical and Diffraction Imaging with Neutrons ODIN Beamline for European materials Engineering Research - BEER



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ESS Lighthouse SOLID Hard materials in 3D





Enn Lust, Univ. Tartu, Estonia



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