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研究課題名(英文) Environmental Degradation of Perovskite Electrode Surfaces in Solid Oxide Fuel Cells
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研究成果の概要(和文)：固体酸化物形燃料電池(SOFC, Solid Oxide Fuel Cell)は、固体電解質形燃料電池とも呼ばれ、動作温度は700-1,000℃を必要とするので高耐熱性の材料が必要となる。また、起動・停止時間も長い。今回の研究では、ガスによる個体酸化物燃料電池のペロブスカイト電極の劣化を調査しました。また、CO₂、H₂O、O₂の共吸着を調査し、H₂Oが炭酸塩の形成を遅らせることを発見しました。

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

Our results were the first to explain the H₂O and CO₂ competition on the perovskite electrodes surfaces. We have concluded that humidified air can suppress the formation of carbonate phase and as a result extend the electrodes' durability.

研究成果の概要(英文)：The project addressed the problem of environmental degradation of SOFCs electrodes operating in air conditions. Air consists of N₂, O₂, CO₂, H₂O and other molecules. While N₂ is mostly inert, CO₂ and H₂O can be significant competitors for adsorption sites on the electrode surface. We have investigated the co-adsorption of H₂O and CO₂ with O₂. We understood that H₂O has promoting effect for oxygen exchange while CO₂ leads to the formation of carbonate phase that blocks the electrode surface. H₂O and CO₂ are natural competitors and H₂O on the surface can significantly delay or suppress the carbonate phase formation. At low air humidity the carbonate phase is formed, at high air humidity the carbonate phase is suppressed. Our theoretical results were verified by experimental observation of wet and dry CO₂ interacting with the electrode surface. We have compared theoretical and experimental IR spectra and we monitored the formation of the carbonate. Results are published: J. Mater. Chem. A

研究分野：materials science

キーワード：SOFC electrochemistry electrode reactions perovskites DFT

1. 研究開始当初の背景

The project addressed the problem of environmental degradation of SOFCs electrodes operating in air conditions. Air consists of N_2 , O_2 , CO_2 , H_2O and other molecules. While N_2 is mostly inert, CO_2 and H_2O can be significant competitors for adsorption sites on the electrode surface. We have investigated the co-adsorption of H_2O and CO_2 with O_2 . We understood that H_2O has promoting effect for oxygen exchange while CO_2 leads to the formation of carbonate phase that blocks the electrode surface. H_2O and CO_2 are natural competitors and H_2O on the surface can significantly delay or suppress the carbonate phase formation. At low air humidity the carbonate phase is formed, at high air humidity the carbonate phase is suppressed. Our theoretical results were verified by experimental observation of wet and dry CO_2 interacting with the electrode surface. We have compared theoretical and experimental IR spectra and we monitored the formation of the carbonate. Results are published: *J. Mater. Chem. A*, 2018,6, 22662-22672.

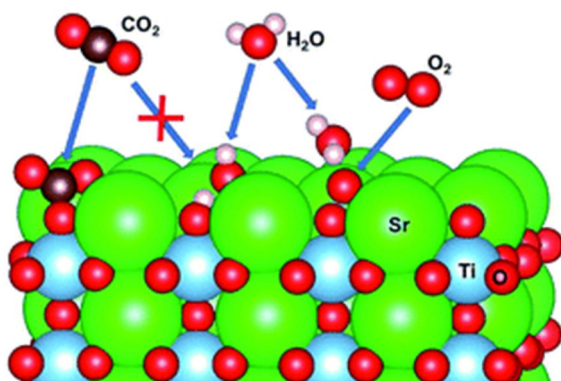


Figure 1. Competitive coadsorption of O_2 , CO_2 and H_2O on $SrTiO_3$ surface.

2. 研究の目的

Our purpose was to investigate and understand the mechanism of electrode surface degradation in air. Our results have shown that the formation of carbonate leads to low oxygen exchange rates. On the other hand, surface water can promote oxygen exchange. We investigated the interplay between O_2 , CO_2 , and H_2O on the perovskite surface.

3. 研究の方法

In this study Periodic, plane wave DFT calculations and first principle molecular dynamics were performed with the Vienna Ab initio Software Package (VASP). The Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof (PBE) exchange–correlation functional was applied using projector augmented wave pseudopotentials. Electron energies were converged to 10–5

eV using the tetrahedron smearing method with Bloch correction for bulk systems and Gaussian smearing for surfaces. The calculations were performed with 400 eV cut-off energy and Monkhorst–Pack k-points mesh of $6 \times 6 \times 4$ for the bulk systems and $6 \times 6 \times 1$ for the slab systems. Geometry optimization was performed using the conjugated gradient algorithm. For bulk systems relaxation was performed of the cell volume, cell shape, and atomic positions. For slab models, relaxation was performed for the atomic positions only. Slabs were constructed using 8 alternating layers of SrO and TiO₂ in the [0 0 1] crystallographic directions. The coordinates of the atoms in the bottom four layers (two SrO and two TiO₂) were fixed, while the coordinates of the four layers (two SrO and two TiO₂) at each surface were fully relaxed. The relaxation was performed until the forces converged to values bellow 0.03 eV Å⁻². Activation barriers for various reaction mechanisms were obtained using the nudged elastic band method (NEB) combined with the climbing nudged elastic band method (cNEB). In the process of NEB calculations five images were used between the starting and ending geometries. Starting geometries for the surface species were obtained using the computational annealing technique with first-principle molecular dynamics.

4 . 研究成果

Based on the Langmuir adsorption theory we have built a thermodynamic model for the CO₂ and H₂O competition for surface sites on the SrTiO₃ electrode.

The CO₂ occupied sites are given with the following equaiton where K are equilibrium cnbstats and P is partial pressure.

$$\theta_{\text{CO}_2} = \frac{K'_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2}}{1 + K'_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2} + K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}} + \left(1 - \frac{K'_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2}}{1 + K'_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2} + K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}} - \frac{K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{1 + K'_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2} + K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}} \right) \left(\frac{K_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2}}{1 + K_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2} + K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}} \right)$$

The H₂O occupied sites are given with the following equaiton where K are equilibrium cnbstats and P is partial pressure.

$$\theta_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = \frac{K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{1 + K'_{\text{CO}_2} P_{\text{CO}_2} + K_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}$$

Based on the equilibrium conatant computed with DFT activation energies and selected pressures we estimated the following surface coverage for the CO₂ and H₂O.

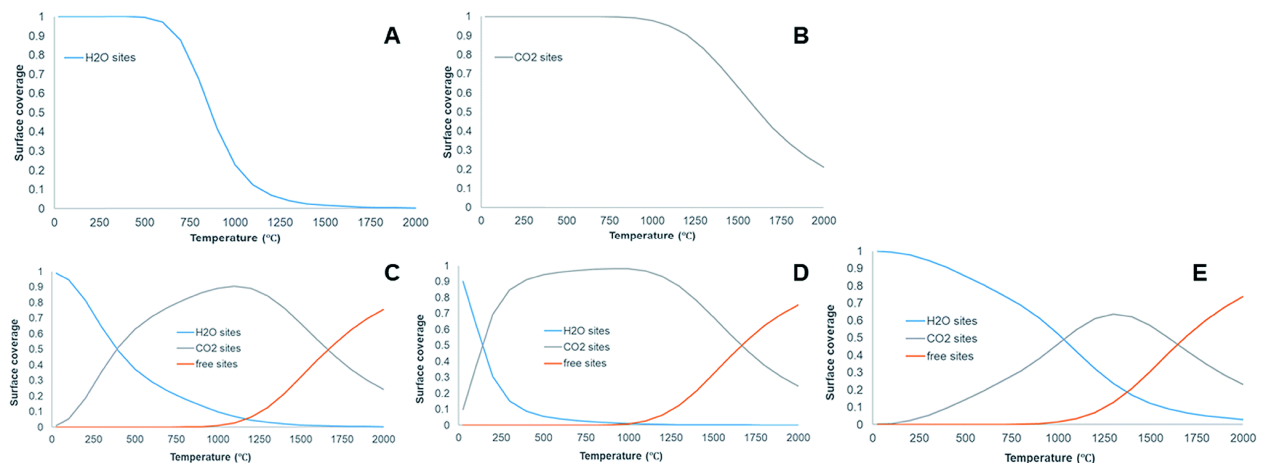


Figure 2. Surface coverage of CO₂ and H₂O. (A) P H₂O = 10⁻⁵ in absence of CO₂; (B) P CO₂ = 3.9 × 10⁻⁴ in absence of H₂O; (C) P H₂O = 10⁻⁵ and P CO₂ = 3.9 × 10⁻⁴; (D) P H₂O = 10⁻⁶ and P CO₂ = 3.9 × 10⁻⁴; (E) P H₂O = 10⁻⁴ and P CO₂ = 3.9 × 10⁻⁴.

We should note that in this work we limit our research to several abundant molecules in the atmosphere: O₂, CO₂, and H₂O. However, depending on the geographical location, the atmospheric air may contain other molecules which can affect the surface composition, chemical properties and operation of devices with perovskite electrodes. Various NO_x and SO_x compounds can be found in the air close to sites with volcanic activity and large cities with thermal power plants and intensive automobile traffic and their effect on perovskite surfaces remain unclear.

5. 主な発表論文等

〔雑誌論文〕 計2件（うち査読付論文 1件/うち国際共著 1件/うちオープンアクセス 0件）

1. 著者名 Yoonyoung Kim, Motonori Watanabe, Junko Matsuda, Aleksandar Staykov, Hajime Kusaba, Atsushi Takagaki, Taner Akbay, Tatsumi Ishihara	4. 巻 8
2. 論文標題 Chemo-mechanical strain effects on band engineering of the TiO ₂ photocatalyst for increasing the water splitting activity	5. 発行年 2020年
3. 雑誌名 Journal of Materials Chemistry A	6. 最初と最後の頁 1335-1346
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） 10.1039/C9TA11048H	査読の有無 無
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1. 著者名 Staykov Aleksandar, Fukumori Shun, Yoshizawa Kazunari, Sato Kenta, Ishihara Tatsumi, Kilner John	4. 巻 6
2. 論文標題 Interaction of SrO-terminated SrTiO ₃ surface with oxygen, carbon dioxide, and water	5. 発行年 2018年
3. 雑誌名 Journal of Materials Chemistry A	6. 最初と最後の頁 22662 ~ 22672
掲載論文のDOI（デジタルオブジェクト識別子） 10.1039/C8TA05177A	査読の有無 有
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〔学会発表〕 計3件（うち招待講演 2件/うち国際学会 2件）

1. 発表者名 Aleksandar Staykov
2. 発表標題 Interaction of O ₂ , CO ₂ and H ₂ O with perovskite surface. Insights from the theory
3. 学会等名 SSI-22（招待講演）（国際学会）
4. 発表年 2019年

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2. 発表標題 Interaction of O ₂ , CO ₂ and H ₂ O with perovskite surface. Insights from the theory
3. 学会等名 S01FIT workshop Royal Society London（招待講演）
4. 発表年 2020年

1. 発表者名 Aleksandar Staykov, Tatsumi Ishihara, John Kilner
2. 発表標題 Interaction of O2, CO2 and H2O with perovskite surface. Insights from the theory
3. 学会等名 PACRIM13 (国際学会)
4. 発表年 2019年

〔図書〕 計0件

〔産業財産権〕

〔その他〕

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6. 研究組織

氏名 (ローマ字氏名) (研究者番号)	所属研究機関・部局・職 (機関番号)	備考

7. 科研費を使用して開催した国際研究集会

〔国際研究集会〕 計0件

8. 本研究に関連して実施した国際共同研究の実施状況

共同研究相手国	相手方研究機関