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Substituted LSM and LSF Cathodes

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## Sequel to the Chromium Saga

The amount of Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> deposited in the cathode depends on the cell potential



Some cathodes are less affected by chromium than others

If the deposits are formed by the electrochemical reaction  $2CrO_2(OH)_2 + 6e^- \rightleftharpoons Cr_2O_3 + 3O^{2-} + 2H_2O$ what then is the equilibrium potential?



Thermodynamics suggest a value near 0.85 volts

 $Cr_2O_3 + 1.5 O_2 \rightleftharpoons 2 CrO_3$   $\bigtriangleup G = + 164 \text{ KJ/mol}$  $emf = -0.28 \text{ V versus } O_2$ 

 $2CrO_3 + 3H_2 \rightarrow Cr_2O_3 + 3H_2O$ 

 $\bigcirc$  G = - 499 KJ/mol emf = + 0.86 V versus H<sub>2</sub>



# **Oxygen Reduction Mechanism**

1 Adsorption



2 Electron Transfer



**3** Transport





### Approach to cathode development

Partially substitute "A" and/or "B" ions in LSM and LSF

Measure

- Area specific resistance (ASR)
- Seebeck coefficient ( $\alpha$ )
- Characterize surface with
  - XPS/UPS
  - Multi excitation Raman spectroscopy



#### **Electrical resistivity of B-site substituted LSM**



- At room temperature Fe and Cr serve to dilute charge carriers (Mn sites)
- Observed increase in resistivity consistent with literature



# Electrical conductivity of B-site substituted LSM at operating temperatures



- Semiconducting behavior: α decreases with increasing T
- Seebeck coefficient indicates high charge carrier concentration – little variation with B-site doping
- 40%  $\sigma$  increase with Ru
- 10% σ increase with Cr
- Activation energy ~0.12eV

## **ASR determination**



LSMCr electrodes (single phase) at 800°C



#### ASR comparison in the LSM system



Fe-substitution

- > 80% reduction in ASR
- Cr-substitution
  - > 90% reduction in ASR (17% Cr)
  - > 80% reduction in ASR (10% Cr)

Ru-substitution

> 60% increase in ASR



### Initial XPS results of porous LSM





#### Electrical and charge transfer resistances in ferrites





# Multi excitation-wavelength resonance Raman spectroscopy system



Thanks to a wide available (deep UV to visible) excitation wavelength,

- Much higher sensitivity: some species are sensitive to UV excitation Raman, others to visible excitation Raman.
- 2) Resonance Raman capability
- 3) No fluorescence interference problem

In addition, availability of insitu measurements under reaction conditions at high temperatures



## In-situ Raman spectra for LSM and LSMCr<sub>0.17</sub>



The peaks at 830 and 858 may represent peroxide and/or adsorbed oxygen attached to manganese ions.



#### **Preliminary observations**

- In cathodes with good inherent ionic conductivity, good electronic conductivity can further enhance the electrochemical performance.
- In poor ionic conductors, any effects of dopants on the oxide ion vacancy concentration predominate.



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