The Serbian Society for Ceramic Materials

Institute for Multidisciplinary Research (IMSI), University of Belgrade

Institute of Physics, University of Belgrade

Center of Excellence for the Synthesis, Processing and Characterization of Materials for use in Extreme Conditions "CEXTREME LAB" - Institute of Nuclear Sciences "Vinča", University of Belgrade

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Belgrade

Center for Green Technologies, Institute for Multidisciplinary Research, University of Belgrade

Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade Faculty of Technology, University of Novi Sad



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## PROGRAMME AND THE BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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> Edited by: Branko Matović Zorica Branković Aleksandra Dapčević Vladimir V. Srdić

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characterization were employed for their characterization in addition to the bulk density and apparent porosity and the compressive strength of prepared geopolymers. Characterization of obtained geoplymers was performed with X-ray diffraction (XRD), Scanning electron microscopy (SEM-EDS), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) and matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF). In summary, results indicated that no interconnected phases were formed between added zircon and starting aluminum silicates or alkali activators. The presence of zircon up to 10 g/100 g metakaolin, led to the improvement of the microstructure of prepared geopolymer, whereas the maximum obtained compressive strength value was 70.15 MPa for the sample that contains 10 g zircon. Addition of higher amount of zircon (20 g/100 g metakaolin) hinders the progress of geopolymerization reaction to take place and consequently decreases the compressive strength.

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### CuO-BASED NANOPLATELETS FOR HUMIDITY SENSING APPLICATION

## <u>Aleksandar Malešević</u><sup>1</sup>, Nikola Tasić<sup>1</sup>, Jovana Ćirković<sup>1</sup>, Jelena Vukašinović<sup>1</sup>, Aleksandra Dapčević<sup>2</sup>, Vesna Ribić<sup>1</sup>, Zorica Branković<sup>1</sup>, Goran Branković<sup>1</sup>

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Determination and monitoring of humidity level is of great importance because water is one of essential components of the living organisms and materials used by people. Metal oxides are the most popular materials used as sensing elements for humidity sensors, due to their excellent thermal and environmental stability, high mechanical strength, wide range of working temperature, low fabrication cost and robustness in practical applications. Humidity sensing ability of metal oxide based ceramic materials can be enhanced by doping with metal cations.

In this work, we present hydrothermal method for preparation of pure and Mgdoped CuO nanoplatelets and investigate their sensing properties towards humidity. The proposed method involves autoclaving of copper(II)-acetate solution under autogenous pressure in alkaline conditions, with different concentrations of Mgdopant (0, 2.5, 5 and 10 mol%). We have performed thorough structural and optical investigations of as synthesized material (TEM, XRD, SAED, UV-VIS-NIR). Furthermore, we have processed obtained powders into functional thick films using doctor blade technique, and their sensing properties were tested in wide range of temperatures (25, 50, 75 °C) and relative humidities (40–90%), resulting with strong response and promising response/recovery times.

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# CHEMICAL STABILITY OF DOPED $\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> AS AN ELECTROLYTE FOR SOLID OXIDE FUEL CELLS

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The high temperature phase of bismuth oxide  $(\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) is a promising material for application as an electrolyte for solid oxide fuel cells (SOFCs), due to its high oxygen ion conductivity. Doping with rare earth cations stabilizes  $\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> phase down to room temperature. According to literature [1], the ionic conductivity of such  $\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is not significantly decreased even at 600 °C. This opens the possibility to lower SOFC operating temperature from 1000 °C to intermediate temperatures. The main drawbacks of this material are the instability in reducing atmosphere and reactivity toward electrode materials. Bismuth ruthenate (Bi<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>) was chosen as a potential electrode material because of its chemical stability, compatibility with  $\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and metal-like electronic conductivity.

Stoichiometric mixtures of Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with Tm<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> or Lu<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> were dry homogenized and heat treated at 750 °C for 3 h in order to obtain  $\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with following compositions: (Bi<sub>0.8</sub>Tm<sub>0.2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and (Bi<sub>0.75</sub>Lu<sub>0.25</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, respectively. Bi<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> was synthesized similarly, i.e. homogenized mixture of Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and RuO<sub>2</sub>·xH<sub>2</sub>O was heated at 900 °C for 3 h. The obtained powders were pressed into disc-shaped pellets and sintered at 920 °C in case of  $\delta$ -Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and 880 °C in case of Bi<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>. Chemical stability of these materials was investigated by exposing the pellets to the hydrogen and butane atmospheres. Compatibility of electrode and electrolyte materials was tested by heating a homogenized mixture of Bi<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> and (Bi<sub>0.8</sub>Tm<sub>0.2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (mass ratio 50:50) at 600 °C. Moreover, a mixture of (Bi<sub>0.75</sub>Lu<sub>0.25</sub>)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Bi<sub>2</sub>Ru<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> (mass ratio 30:70) was pressed into pellet, sintered at 880 °C, and exposed to hydrogen atmosphere in order to evaluate chemical stability of the mixture under reducing conditions. Both electrolyte- and electrode-supported configurations were considered with the aim to form a functional fuel cell.

 A. Dapčević, D. Poleti, J. Rogan, A. Radojković, M. Radović, G. Branković, Solid State Ionics, 280 (2015) 18