



HAL
open science

An imaging technique for the strain-engineering of deformable electrodes

Christophe Rousselot, Yves Gaillard, Marina Raschetti, Marion Vieira, Frédéric Kanoufi, Fabien Amiot

► **To cite this version:**

Christophe Rousselot, Yves Gaillard, Marina Raschetti, Marion Vieira, Frédéric Kanoufi, et al.. An imaging technique for the strain-engineering of deformable electrodes. 19th European Mechanics of Materials Conference, May 2024, Madrid, Spain. hal-04692686

HAL Id: hal-04692686

<https://hal.science/hal-04692686v1>

Submitted on 10 Sep 2024

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

An imaging technique for the strain-engineering of deformable electrodes

C. Rousselot, Y. Gaillard, M. Raschetti, M. Vieira, F. Kanoufi, F. Amiot

Hydrogen is today mainly obtained by hydrocarbon steam reforming, which produces large CO₂ quantities. Because of the rising concern about greenhouse gas emissions, the widespread use of hydrogen as an energy carrier requires the development of a carbon-free production chain. In case it makes use of renewable electricity sources, hydrogen production by electrolysis may be the key to trigger the expansion of this promising sector. However, only a few percent of the total hydrogen production comes today from water electrolysis, mainly because of its cost, which is about four times higher than the cost of hydrogen obtained by steam reforming. Electrolysis requires an electrocatalyst, typically platinum, which is rare and expensive.

Electrolytic production of H₂ is thus handicapped by its dependence on platinum and by the adverse role played by the hydrogen bubbles produced at the electrode surface in the hydrogen production itself. It is therefore crucial, in order to minimize the cost and energy losses, to avoid materials like platinum as much as possible, and to limit the adverse effects of bubbles production.

It has already been demonstrated that elastic strains can modulate the electrocatalytic activity of metals [1-3], so that more abundant materials could be strained in order to compare with platinum in terms of electrocatalytic activity. The question of the optimal position in the 6-dimensional strain space is however open, and we propose an experimental approach based on an original imaging technique to address this issue.

[1] *Mavrikakis et al.* Phys. Rev. Lett. 81 (13), 1998.

[2] *Kibler et al.* Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 44, 2005.

[3] *Martinez-Alonso et al.* PCCP 24, 2022.

Keywords : strain-engineering, imaging , electrocatalytic activity