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### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## Electrophoretic deposition and sintering of a nanostructured manganesecobalt spinel coating for solid oxide fuel cell interconnects

M. Mirzaei<sup>a</sup>, A. Simchi<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, M.A. Faghihi-Sani<sup>a</sup>, A.Yazdanyar<sup>a</sup>

a Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Sharif University of Technology, P.O. Box 11365-9466, Azadi Avenue, 14588 Tehran, Iran

b Institute for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Sharif University of Technology, P.O. Box

11365-9466, Azadi Avenue, 14588 Tehran, Iran

\* Corresponding author at: Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Sharif University of Technology, P.O. Box 11365-9466, Azadi Avenue, 14588 Tehran, Iran. Tel.: +98 21 6616
5262; fax: +98 21 6616 5261. E-mail address: simchi@sharif.edu (A. Simchi).

### Abstract

Solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) is one of the promising candidates for clean energy production. Due to the high operating temperature of SOFCs, a protective coating is commonly applied on the surface of interconnects to prevent oxidation. In this study, electrophoretic deposition was employed to prepare a manganese-cobalt spinel coating on ferritic stainless steel (AISISAE430) substrates. Nanostructured  $MnCo_2O_4$  powder with an average crystallite size of 60 nm was utilized and the sintering behavior of the coatings at different temperatures was studied. Non-isothermal and isothermal sintering behavior of the powder were examined by employing a sensitive dilatometer. Master sintering curve of the spinel powder was also established. The activation energy of sintering was determined to be  $513\pm13$  kJmol<sup>-1</sup>. Finally, the oxidation

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