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### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# Effect of the synthesis conditions on the properties of $La_{0.15}Sm_{0.35}Sr_{0.08}Ba_{0.42}FeO_{3-\delta}$ cathode material for SOFCs

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#### Abstract:

The perovskite La<sub>0.15</sub>Sm<sub>0.35</sub>Sr<sub>0.08</sub>Ba<sub>0.42</sub>FeO<sub>3-δ</sub> has been prepared by the glycine nitrate (GNC) route, varying the fuel/oxidizer ratio (glycine/nitrate, G/N= 1 and 2) and cooling rate (slow cooling and air-quenched), in order to study the influence of sample preparation on the materials' properties, in the context of their application as a cathode material for SOFCs. For this, the performance of the prepared mixed ion and electron conducting perovskite oxides is dictated by their structure, oxygen stoichiometry (3- $\delta$ ), chemical composition and thermal expansion properties. High-resolution Synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction patterns were collected at room temperature and at 700 and 800°C. It was found that the materials had a cubic crystal structure at these temperatures. As expected, 3- $\delta$  decreased as temperature increased, and was slightly smaller for the quenched sample. Higher electrical conductivity values were obtained for the sample with G/N = 1 (air-quenched) in the cooling rate. At 700 and 800°C the cathode synthesized with G/N = 1 and air-quenched showed the smallest polarization

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